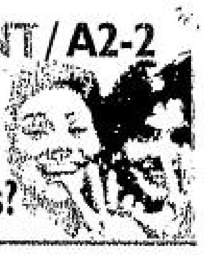
- **OPINION / A11**
  Patricia Evangelista starts her weekly PDI column today
- **NEWS/ A5**
  San Benito Farm in Batangas wins best wellness spa, 2 other awards
- **THE WORLD/ A8**
  New Bali blasts kill 19, wound 51, many of them foreigners
- **ENTERTAINMENT / A2-2**
  Whatever happened to Aldeguer sisters, TV's dancingest in '70s?



MORAN

Margie: From Miss Universe to Ms Fuels for Life

By Gerry Lirio

MARGIE MORAN, MISS UNIVERSE 1973, has taken on a new title—"Miss Fuels For Life."

Now in her 50s, Moran

MARGIE / A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Weary execs can put feet up without missing a deal

KUALA LUMPUR—Stressed-out but can't take time off work to unwind? Then take a lesson from executives in Malaysia's capital who have learned to put their feet up without missing the next big deal.

WEARY/ A6

ANG SARAP MAGTRABAHO!

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Sunday, October 2, 2005 ★★★ 86 pages / 11 sections / Vol. 19 / No. 296 P18

website: www.inq7.net

Cory-Drilon plot bared

Miriam says plan is to force GMA out by Oct. 15, or else ...

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

IT IS A PLOT SUPPOSEDLY calling for President Macapagal-Arroyo to be ousted in a coup d'etat and no less than former President Corazon Aquino and Senate President Franklin Drilon are allegedly behind it.

Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago, in a press statement, said the target date for Ms Arroyo's removal from office was Oct. 15.

Her source: A "chattering" relative of Drilon himself.

Santiago did not identify the talkative relative.

Drilon called Santiago's allegation "fantastic" and said it must be part of a Palace-instigated smear operation.

"Cory has no response to the statement," said Aquino's spokesperson, Deedee Sytangco.

Rep. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III dismissed Santiago's claims.

"She is claiming that her witness heard a relative of Senator Drilon talk about assassination but when you say it's an assassination plot, by nature that would be a conspiracy and you don't broadcast it to every Tom, Dick and Harry," Aquino told the INQUIRER.

Santiago said that if Ms Arroyo did not resign or was not ousted by Oct. 15, she would be "removed physically."

"Of course, 'physical removal' refers to assassination. Hence, I told President Arroyo that she should beef up her security measures," Santiago, a staunch Arroyo ally, said.

But Santiago's statement also said that "it was also likely that the Drilon relative was merely engaging in psywar."

"This [plot] is all a grand design, a Da Vinci Code thriller," she added.

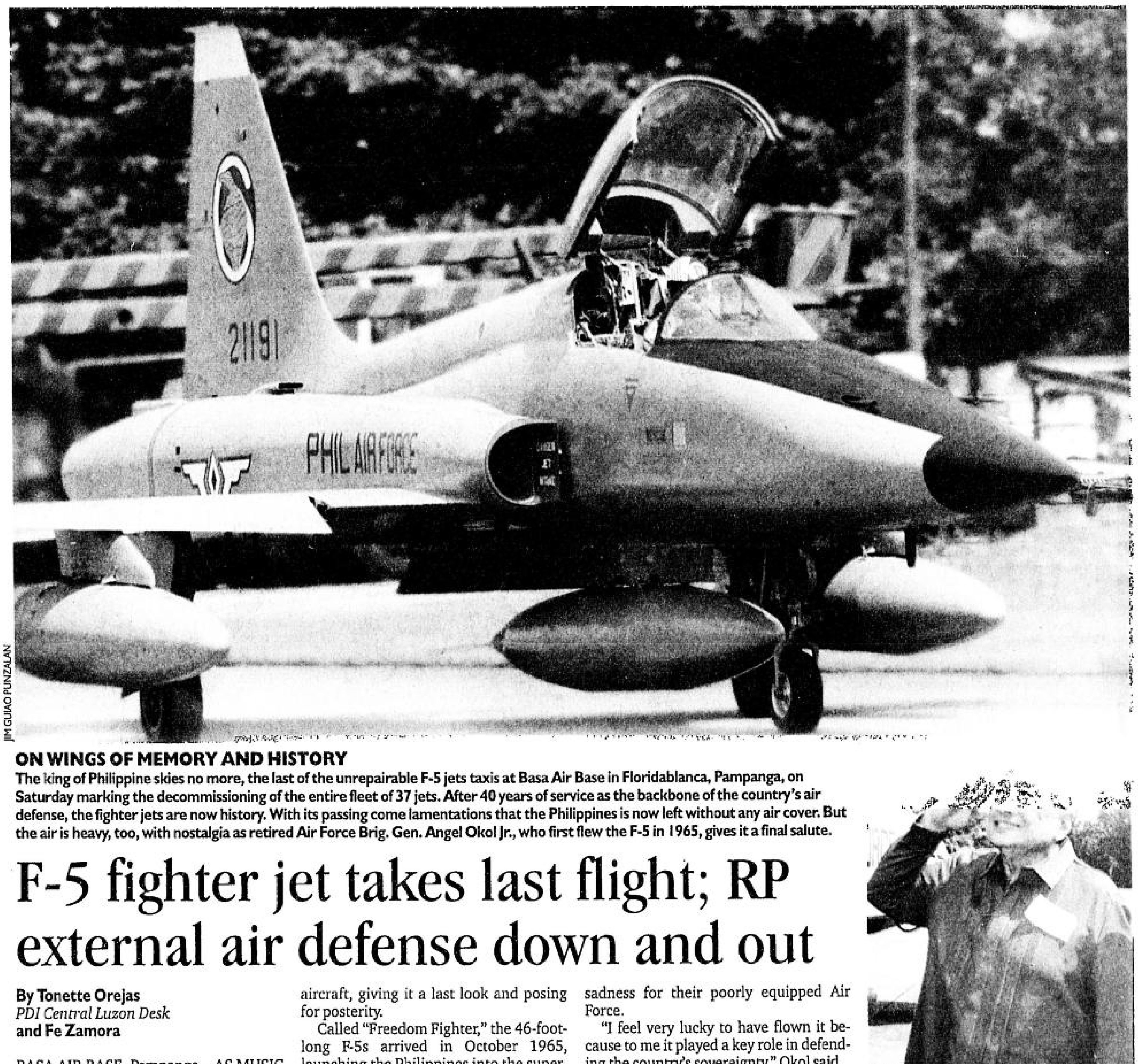
The Da Vinci Code is a novel centered on attempts to uncover a centuries-old secret about the life of Jesus Christ. A Vatican official has denounced it as an example of "literary parasitism" in a sex-obsessed society.

Besides the unnamed relative, Santiago offered no other "proof" to substantiate her allegations.

Santiago's statement was the latest in a series of headline-grabbing exchanges between the administration and opposition camps in recent weeks. Last month, two opposition figures charged that justice department staff had drafted a presidential proclamation calling for emergency rule.

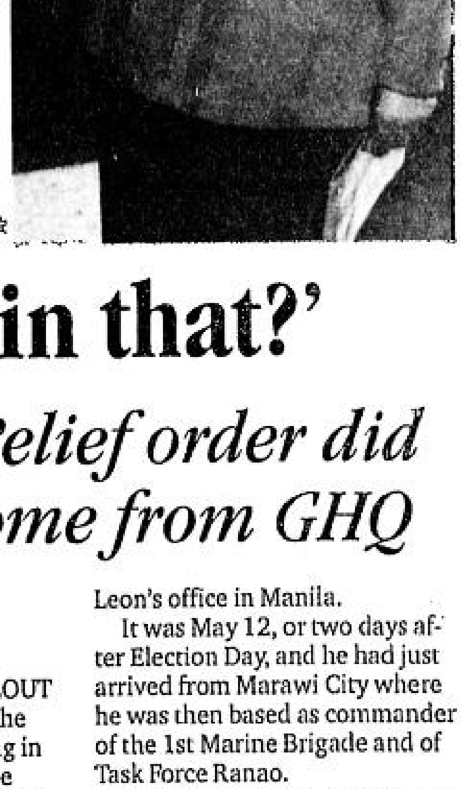
Santiago said the purported scheme to oust Ms Arroyo had a Plan A and B, with Plan A calling for Vice President

MIRIAM/ A4



JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

ON WINGS OF MEMORY AND HISTORY
The king of Philippine skies no more, the last of the unrepairable F-5 jets taxis at Basa Air Base in Floridablanca, Pampanga, on Saturday marking the decommissioning of the entire fleet of 37 jets. After 40 years of service as the backbone of the country's air defense, the fighter jets are now history. With its passing come lamentations that the Philippines is now left without any air cover. But the air is heavy, too, with nostalgia as retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Angel Okol Jr., who first flew the F-5 in 1965, gives it a final salute.



AP

F-5 fighter jet takes last flight; RP external air defense down and out

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk
and Fe Zamora

BASA AIR BASE, Pampanga—AS MUSIC from the soundtrack of the movie "Top Gun" blared, the fighter jet taxied toward a hangar in this air base to mark the retirement of the country's 37 F-5s, once dubbed the kings of Philippine skies.

Shortly after, retired Brig. Gen. Angel Okol Jr., who was the first to fly the twin-engine supersonic plane for the Air Force in 1965, and Maj. Carlos Evangelista, the last to steer it in 2002, stood beside the aircraft, giving it a last look and posing for posterity.

Called "Freedom Fighter," the 46-foot-long F-5s arrived in October 1965, launching the Philippines into the supersonic age. It was the first Asian country to acquire the planes and, until the '70s, the Philippine Air Force would be the envy of its neighbors.

With the sun glimmering on the plane's wings, Okol (known by his call sign "Cobra 30") and Evangelista ("Cobra 389") lingered and exchanged memories of combat missions.

But their memories were tinged with sadness for their poorly equipped Air Force.

"I feel very lucky to have flown it because to me it played a key role in defending the country's sovereignty," Okol said.

F-5s, he recalled, saw action against secessionists in Mindanao, where he was chief of the then Regional Air Command.

"The F-5s saw big combat operations. They carried all kinds of armaments, except napalm bombs. They carried more weapons like 20-mm cannons," Okol said.

"I feel sad that this major fleet is retired but [economy-wise], it is a correct

F-5 FIGHTER/ A6

'If I didn't take the risk, where's the sacrifice in that?'

By Volt Contreras and Christian V. Esguerra

HIS RECENT TESTIMONY AT THE SENATE ON ELECTION fraud may cost him his freedom, his family's security, not to mention the estimated P2 million in benefits due him as a retiring military officer.

But for Brig. Gen. Francisco Gudani, "it will not mean anything" if he chose to tell all after Tuesday, when he shall have been a wealthier civilian no longer facing the same level of risk.

"Where is the sacrifice in that? Will it have any meaning if I do it on Tuesday? Will I lose anything?" Gudani said in the course of narrating the epiphany leading to his Sept. 28 bombshell in support of lingering allegations that fraud had marked President Macapagal-Arroyo's election victory in 2004.

"When I heard two or three months ago that there will be a Senate investigation of the 'Hello Garci' [scandal], I thought this was my right venue," he said in an interview last Friday. "I've been waiting for this chance."

When not in uniform, the father of two has been leading what he calls a "Christian, Bible-based life" since 1989, when he left the Catholic Church and joined the Christ's Commission Fellowship. He has been particu larly

IF I DIDN'T/ A6

GUDANI made the decision to tell all after an emotional four-hour consultation and pray-over with two pastors. He decided to "glorify God, not Gloria." LYN RILLON

Gudani: Relief order did not just come from GHQ

By Volt Contreras and Jerome Aning

THE ORDER FOR HIS PULLOUT from his Mindanao post at the height of the vote canvassing in May 2004 "did not just come from the general headquarters" of the Armed Forces, according to Brig. Gen. Francisco Gudani, the latest whistle-blower on alleged election fraud.

Gudani told the INQUIRER on Friday that he learned about the pullout order when he reported to Marine Commandant Emmanuel Teodosio and Adm. Ernesto de Leon, Navy flag officer in command (FOIC), at De Leon's office in Manila.

It was May 12, or two days after Election Day, and he had just arrived from Marawi City where he was then based as commander of the 1st Marine Brigade and of Task Force Ranao.

The general could not remember who between the two officers said it, but he said he heard it during their exchange.

He said it was also in that meeting that De Leon told him to stay in Manila for about 10 days, or maybe take his family to the Boracay island resort.

"*Magpalamig ka muna* (Cool it)," he said he was told.

ORDER/ A6

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northeastern and Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.
SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: JAMIE ALARCON, PDI RESEARCH/10/01/05

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

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Second FRONT PAGE

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Don't blame tenants' poverty on us, says Cojuangcos' lawyer

By Norman Bordadora

DON'T BLAME THE COJUANGCOS, OR THE stock distribution scheme the government now wants revoked, if thousands of farmers remain as impoverished as they were on the day they were declared co-owners of Hacienda Luisita 16 years ago.

So declared Vigor Mendoza, lawyer for Hacienda Luisita Inc. (HLI), as he disputed assertions by the Department of Agrarian Reform that the former tenants of the 5,000-hectare estate owned by the family of former President Corazon Aquino had become poorer despite the implementation of a measure that was intended to uplift their lives.

"But look at the latest (Social Weather Stations) survey. Is the rest of the country better off?" Mendoza told the INQUIRER in an interview yesterday.

The country, too

"What's happening to Hacienda Luisita is representative of what's happening in the country. There are macro conditions that dictated the price of sugar and that was beyond the control of the company," Mendoza said, referring to problems that had afflicted the sugar industry through the years since the estate's Stock Distribution Option was implemented in 1989 as the Cojuangcos' way of complying with the land reform law.

Agrarian Reform Secretary Nasser C. Pangandaman announced last Friday he had accepted a fact-finding group's recommendation to scrap the stock distribution scheme and had endorsed it to the Presidential Agrarian Reform Council (PARC) headed by President Macapagal-Arroyo for final approval.

Existing contract

That would pave the way for cutting up the hacienda, which is the size of Caloocan City, into small farm lots for distribution to its workers.

Mendoza said DAR was in no position to make such a proposal since there was an existing contract between HLI and the farmer-shareholders.

"All contract disputes are decided by the courts and quasi-judicial bodies which the DAR is not," Mendoza said, adding that the agreement between HLI and the 8,000 farmer-shareholders is now governed by the Corporation Code, no longer by the government's land reform program.

Authority ended

"In 1989, we asked (the government) if the SDO could be done to take the place of the land redistribution under the CARP. They said yes, so we went on with it," Mendoza said.

"When the contract was entered into by the farmers by way of a referendum, that's when the (DAR's) authority (over Hacienda Luisita) ended," he said.

No opportunity

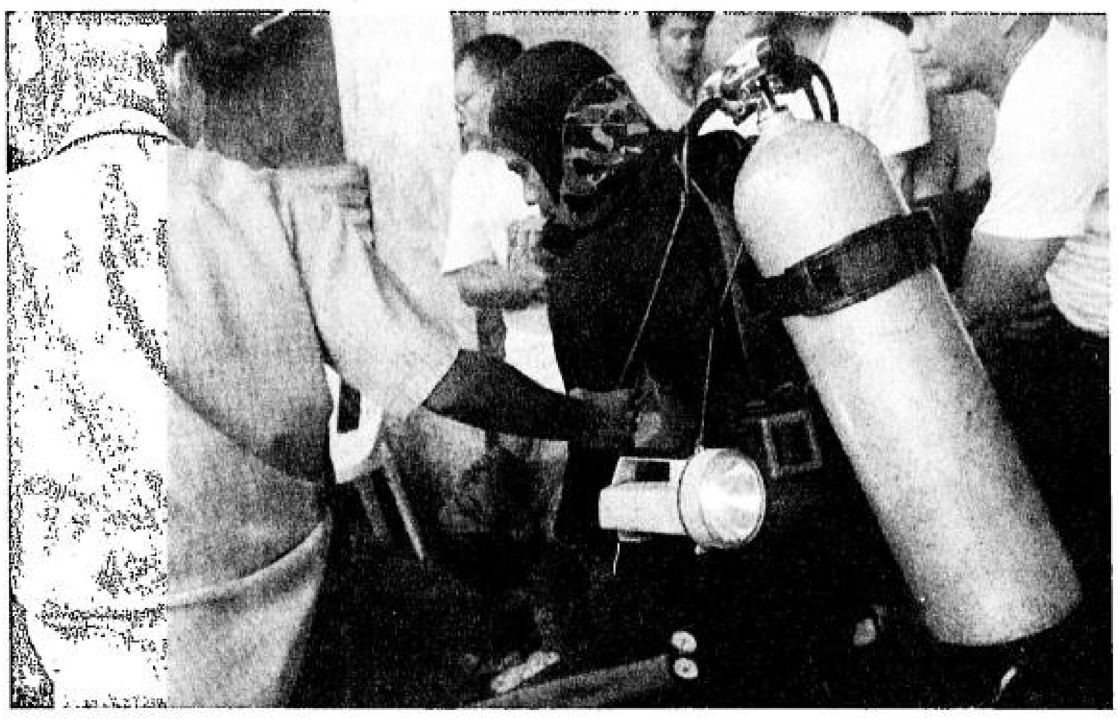
Mendoza said the fact-finding Task Force Luisita, which was set up after seven farm workers were killed in a violent breakup of their picket lines last year, and the DAR did not give the hacienda management an opportunity to disprove the alleged violations committed by HLI in the course of the implementation of the SDO.

"The DAR recommendation did not even include a discussion of our defense," he said.

The hacienda's management is waiting to see what the PARC will do before it maps out its own plan of action, Mendoza said, adding, "Clearly, (this) is not yet final."

Thus far, however, he thinks the government has already caused enough harm.

"For one thing, they could be giving the people false hopes," Mendoza said. "They think that's already it."



FATAL FALL
A Philippine Coast Guard diver carries the lifeless body of Justin Yandade, 17, who reportedly fell from an abandoned five-story building on Banawe St., Quezon City, and landed in its flooded basement where he drowned. Barangay officials are set to close the unfinished Banawe Towers to prevent more fatal accidents of this kind.
JOAN BONDOC

Brass tried everything to skip hearing

By Fe Zamora

EVEN BEFORE PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-Arroyo issued Executive Order No. 464, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga was already "scrambling" for reasons not to attend the inquiry on the "Hello, Garci" scandal, Sen. Rodolfo Biazon said on Thursday.

In a letter to Biazon dated Sept. 23, Senga said he could not attend the Sept. 28 Senate hearing because of a "previous commitment" to attend the 8th Brunei International Skills at Arms conference, which would fall in the same week as the hearing.

Senga said he had directed the other military officers who were invited—Rear Adm. Mateo Mayuga, Rear Adm. Tirso Danga, Brig. Gen. Marlu Quevedo and Brig. Gen. Francisco Gudani—to attend the meeting.

"However, I hope to be present in the next public hearing that may be conducted on the same or other subjects," Senga wrote.

But in another letter dated Sept. 27, Senga said he could not attend the hearing because of "a pressing operational situation that demands my utmost personal attention."

He also requested a postponement of the hearing, saying: "Some of the invited AFP officers are currently attending to other urgent operational matters."

"Considering the national security significance of said hearing, I believe it is my obligation to be personally present together with the other invited officers when the matters listed in your invitation are deliberated [on]," Senga also said.

The INQUIRER obtained copies of Senga's letters to Biazon on Thursday.

Biazon said that minutes before the hearing was to open on Sept. 28, he received yet another letter from Senga saying that the military officers could not attend the hearing without written approval from the President.

Four hours later, Biazon said, he received a copy of EO 464 by fax.

"They were scrambling. As you can see, there seemed to be a flurry of directives to stop them [from attending the hearing]," he said.

But Gudani appeared at the Senate with Lt. Col. Alex Balutan, in defiance of the EO.

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Shell, Pryce hike cooking gas prices

By Abigail L. Ho

CITING AN UNPRECEDENTED surge in international liquefied petroleum gas prices, oil refiner Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. yesterday raised the prices of its cooking gas by P1 per kilogram.

The price increase of Shell's LPG took effect at 6 a.m.

Pryce Gases, which sells LPG in the Visayas and Mindanao, also hiked LPG prices by the same level at 8 a.m. today.

Other LPG suppliers have yet to announce their own price hikes.

Shell general manager for external affairs Roberto Kanapi said the international contract price for LPG skyrocketed to $519 per metric ton (MT) this month, almost $79 higher than the September contract price of $440.20 per MT.

While the increase in international contract prices for LPG should translate to a price hike of more than P4 per kilogram on local LPG, he said Shell decided to implement the price increases on a staggered basis.

LPG now retails at between P400 to P462 per 11-kilogram cylinder.

Since the start of the year, cooking gas prices have risen eight times or by a total of P5.15 per kilogram.

Data from the Department of Energy showed that LPG contract prices had spiked by as much as $119 per MT since July. Contract prices were placed at $404.20 per MT in August and $400.10 per MT in July.

The current contract price of $519 per MT is an all-time high, breaking the record set in November last year when LPG contract prices hit $470 per MT.

The $79-per-MT jump in contract prices from September to October is the highest since 1999.

Huge international demand for LPG in September, due to its use as an alternative heating fuel in the western hemisphere, boosted its October contract price.

Further price increases could be expected in the winter months as western countries stock up on LPG and diesel for their heating requirements.

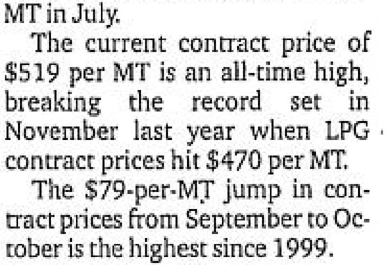
The United States also experienced some supply problems as hurricanes Katrina and Rita caused refineries in the Gulf of Mexico to shut down.

Another reason for the October price increase was the spike in demand for LPG component butane in the petrochemical industry. Butane is used as a petrochemical feedstock.

Yuchengco represents RP in Global Forum

FORMER PHILIPPINE PERMAnent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Alfonso T. Yuchengco was the sole participant from the country in the Global Initiative Forum organized recently by former US President Bill Clinton in New York to discuss a broad range of issues.

Yuchengco joined the group of 40 world leaders, heads of state and other officials that included UK Prime Minister Tony Blair, US Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, Israeli Vice Premier Shimon Peres, Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah bin Ahmed Badawi, Macedonian President Branko Crvenkovski and Georgian President Mikheil Saakasa Vili



AMBASSADOR Yuchengco

Among the topics taken up during the two-day international forum held at the Sheraton New York Hotel were: The Future of the Middle East; Changes in World Climatic Conditions and other environmental concerns; and Poverty and Religion

Palace shuns calls for talks on EO 464 with solons

NOTWITHSTANDING A LOOMING CONSTITUTIONAL crisis, Malacañang has shrugged off calls for an immediate dialogue with lawmakers over the controversial Executive Order No. 464 issued by President Macapagal-Arroyo, which has placed the executive and legislative branches of government on a collision course.

"We are open to (a dialogue) but at the proper time," Ms Arroyo's political adviser, Gabriel Claudio, said yesterday.

But Claudio did not say when the proper time was for the executive and legislative to hold a dialogue.

On Wednesday, the President issued EO 464 banning government executives, military and police officials from testifying at Congressional hearings without the President's permission.

The EO immediately drew flak from the opposition and even from Ms Arroyo's allies in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

In an interview, Claudio stressed there were still questions that needed to be resolved "that affects its (legislative) relationship with the executive and the resolution of which is in the hands of the Senate."

Claudio mentioned the Palace's repeated appeals to the Senate to lift its detention order on National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales who was cited in contempt for refusing to answer questions on the Venable LLP contract.

The Palace had invoked the separation of powers and executive privilege in asking the Senate to lift its detention order against Gonzales, but the senators have refused to budge.

But Claudio noted that despite the issuance of EO 464 "the process of dialogue continues."

He cited the attendance last Friday of government executives at two Senate hearings—on proposed amendments to the Bases Conversion Development Authority and on the importation of right-hand drive vehicles.

"The attendance of government executives in these two hearings is a clear example to indicate the real intent and validity of EO 464," Claudio said.

The EO did not intend to derail the process of legislation, he said.

"It's an instrument to urge the Senate to focus more on legislation rather than using investigations and hearings for partisan ends which not only disrupt the legislative agenda of government but are being used to destabilize the administration," he said. *Christine O. Avendaño, Norman Bordadora and Armand N. Nocum; with Nestor P. Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau*

House threatens ARMM officials with contempt

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVernment has threatened to cite in contempt education and audit officials in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) after they failed to produce documents on the anomalous nonremittance of nearly P1 billion worth of teachers' contributions to the Government Service Insurance System.

Iloilo Rep. Arthur Defensor, chair of the committee, said it would cite in contempt officials of the Department of Education-ARMM, Commission on Audit-ARMM and Land Bank of the Philippines-Cotabato City after they failed to turn over documents on some P968.7 million in teachers' compulsory GSIS contributions and the illegal disbursement of these funds.

The House committee had issued subpoenas to the officials to produce the pertinent documents but they had failed to do so.

"The committee will cite in contempt those who fail to produce the necessary documents," an irate Defensor said.

He also said the committee will request the GSIS to allow the affected teachers to continue to avail of their rights, benefits and privileges under the system despite the nonremittance of their compulsory contributions.

Defensor said the teachers should not bear the burden if it was proved that the contributions were deducted from their salaries but were not remitted to the GSIS.

The House looked into the fund mess after it was exposed by Akbayan party-list Representatives Mario Aguja, Loretta Ann Rosales and Risa Hontiveros. Forty-three other congressmen also signed a resolution calling for an investigation.

According to the resolution, DepEd-ARMM failed to remit to the GSIS the public school teachers' compulsory contributions covering the period 1997-2003. The amount totaled P968.7 million, inclusive of interest.

The resolution underscored the complicity of some DepEd-ARMM officials in illegal disbursements allegedly made from the agency's funds amounting to P283.2 million. The disbursements, P116.2 million and P167 million, were made through the LBP Cotabato City branch.

The Bureau of Treasury-Maguindanao looked into the disbursements and discovered that they were riddled with "various substantive and procedural anomalies."

Senate probes push bills to back burner

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

MALACAÑANG OFFICIALS DEPLORE it, House legislators complain about it, and now even its own members are dismayed by it—the Senate that eats up P1.3 billion in taxpayer money each year is slacking off.

Even as House leaders yesterday urged the Senate to get cracking on 285 pending bills, at least three senators have complained that the upper chamber has been neglecting its legislative work, spending much of its time on "investigations in aid of legislation."

Of 2,052 bills filed in the Senate during its first regular session, three have been approved on third reading, 11 are awaiting approval on second reading, and more than 1,900 remain pending in various Senate committees.

And out of 314 bills transmitted by the House to the Senate, only six have been approved, including the five signed into law.

Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago said investigations have been taking up the chamber's time instead of vital measures, including the 2006 national budget.

"It's October and we have not even started the sub-committee hearings," she said, pointing out that while the House is conducting budget deliberations, Senate sub-committees should usually be holding their own budget hearings to facilitate the approval of the measure.

Santiago has referred to the Senate investigations as "serial impeachment" proceedings against President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Aside from the Northrail, wiretapping and Venable contract investigations that were held this week, the Senate committee on public order has spent nine hearings and more than 40 hours investigating the jueteng controversy involving Ms Arroyo and her relatives. It is also investigating the raid on the house of an opposition documents expert in possession of allegedly tampered election returns. *(See story below)*.

Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, who recently joined the majority, has been very vocal in his criticism of the chamber's slow output. He said not much work was being done, with the Senate's daily agenda almost empty and the committees not coming up with any reports on their hearings.

An administration senator, who did not want to be named, said there was some truth to Malacanang's accusation that the Senate had neglected its task, turning itself into a kangaroo court to conduct a de facto impeachment trial of the President.

"What else can you call that? We have no output, it's all privilege speeches. Can you imagine coming to the session just to hear the speeches of Nene (Pimentel, the minority leader) and Jinggoy (Estrada)?" the senator said.

The senator said the problem stemmed from the leadership of Senate President Franklin Drilon.

"Drilon does not implement Malacañang's agenda," the senator said.

Drilon has led calls for the resignation of the President because of charges she stole the election in 2004.

Opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara told a radio interview the other day that the Senate and Malacañang were now like gladiators putting up a fight to entertain the crowd. He said this was at the expense of the legislation that the Senate should be focusing on.

The administration senator said his colleagues had become so irritated by the opposition senators' daily criticism of the Arroyo administration that they leave the sessions early. *With a report from Philip C. Tubeza*

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Miriam tells of Cory-Drilon plot to oust GMA

From page A1

Noli de Castro to be installed as president, and Drilon as vice president and executive secretary.

Plan B would install Drilon as president and Aquino's only son, Representative Aquino, as vice president.

Allegations that Drilon was involved in a plot to oust Ms Arroyo had been made before. They also cropped up in July at the height of the "Hello Garci" scandal about Ms Arroyo's supposed involvement in election fraud. Drilon had also dismissed those allegations as political intrigue.

Serial impeachment

Santiago said part of the plot was the instigation of a "serial impeachment" process through successive Senate investigations on alleged anomalies in the Arroyo administration to create a climate of distrust in the President.

This is the "Cojuangco revenge" for government moves to take control of the sprawling Hacienda Luisita from Ms Aquino's family and distribute its land to the farmers, she said.

Santiago said the plot prompted Ms Arroyo to issue in self-defense Executive Order No. 464 prohibiting senior government officials from appearing in congressional hearings without presidential approval.

Santiago said the plot to oust Ms Arroyo was uttered by a relative of the Senate president whom she did not name.

"My source is impeccable. The source was right there listening while the Drilon relative was chattering away," she said.

She said this relative "allegedly told a recent gathering that Oct. 15 is the deadline for removing Arroyo by coup d'etat."

The Santiago statement did not say what the "recent gathering" was about and where it was held.

"The Drilon relative even boasted that President Aquino has strengthened her ties with military generals," Santiago said.

ARROYO was told to beef up her security against the alleged "Cojuangco revenge."

DRILON: Fantastic. They're trying to discredit the Senate as an institution.

AQUINO allegedly ordered Drilon to conduct Senate probes as part of the plot.

DEFENSOR-SANTIAGO: My source is impeccable.

Santiago said it was Drilon's relative who spoke about the Oct. 15 target date, after which she would be "removed physically."

The senator claimed it was Aquino who told Drilon to call for Ms Arroyo's resignation. After the impeachment case failed, she said Aquino told Drilon to start Senate probes into alleged government misdeeds.

Aquino and Drilon are among the national figures who have called for Ms Arroyo's resignation on the heels of the "Hello Garci" scandal.

"At least three independent sources have told me that Senator Drilon confessed to receiving instructions from President Aquino to hold the Senate probes as a continuing series," she said.

'Acute withdrawal syndrome'

Santiago said the plot was hatched after it became clear that the government would take away Hacienda Luisita from Aquino's family.

She said the Cojuangcos were suffering from "acute withdrawal syndrome" over the sugar-producing hacienda.

Santiago said the recent series of Senate investigations was not coincidental.

"The target was not the alleged specific anomaly, but President Arroyo," she said.

Drilon vehemently denied the "fantastic claim" of Santiago.

He said the allegations could be part of a "media smear campaign launched against me by President Arroyo and her hyperactive spin-doctors ... to discredit the Senate as an institution."

"Instigating an institutional confrontation between Congress and Malacañang would only exacerbate the present political crisis and would plunge the country's economy into deeper trouble," Drilon said.

He stressed that the Senate "is not conducting 'de facto impeachment proceedings' against Ms Arroyo.

"The Senate inquiries, such as the illegal and overpriced NorthRail project probe, are being undertaken in accordance with the mandate of Congress to perform oversight functions under the principle of checks and balances in a democracy."

Malacañang was silent on Santiago's claims but Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said he had recently received information from his intelligence team about a similar plot to oust Ms Arroyo by Oct. 15.

Gonzalez said his information was "worse" because "if they can't oust the President by Oct. 15, they will resort to kidnapping and holding her hostage."

Gonzalez said he got the information only Thursday night and he had not even mentioned it to the President "because I don't want to cry wolf." *With reports from Armand N. Nocum Christine O. Avendañoand Philip Tubeza*

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Margie: From Miss U to Ms Fuels for Life

From page A1

will help promote environment-friendly fuels as the primary endorser of "Fuels for Life," a spin-off of the Clean City program of the government and two United States agencies.

Moran's new title comes without a crown, and she will receive no talent fee.

If at all, she would be asked to wear a pin bearing the words "Fuels for Life"—referring to environment-friendly and renewable fuels such as coco-biodiesel and ethanol, which are collectively called alternative fuels.

"This is the wave of the future," Moran, the country's second Miss Universe title holder, told the INQUIRER in an interview. "Oil prices keep on rising. And we will surely run out of fossil fuels. We need to find, develop and promote alternative fuels now."

She agreed to endorse alternative fuels after meeting with representatives of the United States Department of Energy last month.

Alternative fuels

The Department of Energy, along with the USDOE and the United States Agency for International Development, has been promoting the use of these alternative fuels for cleaner air and to lessen the country's dependence on imported fuel.

Biodiesel is sourced from coconut and used to run diesel engines. Ethanol comes from sugar and is used to run gas engines. Both coconut and sugar grow abundantly in the Philippines.

Moran will spearhead the launching of the "Fuels for Life" movement in Davao City on Oct 27. It will be capped by a fashion show at the Waterfront-Insular Hotel featuring other users and promoters of alternative fuels, namely, Rep. Miguel Zubiri of Bukidnon, Daniel Moore, chief of USAID Office of Energy and Environment; USAID senior technical advisor Rosario Calderon, actor Joel Torre, lawyer and former beauty queen Zoraida Andam, bar topnotcher January Sanchez, Jeffrey Hidalgo of Team Explorer and local Davao officials.

"Fuels for Life" will also be launched in two other cities in Metro Manila and Luzon this month. A 10-minute educational video will be shown in more than 200 buses running on compressed natural gas, another alternative fuel, sourced from Malampaya, off Palawan.

Tourism, environment

But long before the government started endorsing alternative fuels, Moran had been in the forefront of the environment movement and other civic causes.

She left her cosmopolitan life in Manila 16 years ago to join her husband, banana magnate Antonio Floirendo Jr., now a congressman, in Davao. Soon after, she revamped the image of Davao, and later Mindanao, as a tourist destination.

She helped set up Pearl Farm Resort, an eco-tourism destination. She also worked on achieving peace between the government and the secessionist movement.

Moran is a Tabang Mindanaw task force member, chair of Youth Build 2002 of the Habitat for Humanity, and president emeritus of Save Davao Gulf Foundation, which seeks to protect the Davao gulf area.

Corrections

IN YESTERDAY'S issue, a story on Page A23—"Bearing it in Bacolod"—misstated that Bacolod was a province. Bacolod is a city in the province of Negros Occidental.

* * *

YESTERDAY'S caption on Page A1 misstated the name of First Gentleman Mike Arroyo's grandfather as "Gen. Aniceto Tuazon." It should have read Gen. Aniceto Lacson, as correctly stated in the story on Page A4.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to the Day Desk, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City, fax Nos. 897-47-93/94; e-mail address: daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

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Ministers hatch 3-yr plan against avian flu

SOUTHEAST ASIAN AGRICULTURE MINISTERS have agreed to launch a three-year plan next year aimed at stamping out the bird flu menace in the region—a move they hope will win enough international aid to halt the disease before it becomes a catastrophic global epidemic with the potential to kill millions.

The ministers from the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) said in a statement Friday that "the highly pathogenic avian influenza," which has ravaged poultry populations in large swaths of Asia and killed dozens of people, required "an all-out coordinated regional effort."

At the close of the meeting in Tagaytay City, the Asean ministers issued a joint statement endorsing the regional plan and directing a new task force to urgently formulate "a detailed action plan for implementation and proceed to identify potential sources of funding."

The three-year plan includes provisions for a disease surveillance and alert system, vaccinations, improving diagnostic capability and the establishment of disease-free zones.

The Asean animal health trust fund formally established during the meeting "gives the signal to potential donors that Asean member-countries are serious about eradicating avian flu as well as other diseases that are facing the region," said Asean Deputy Secretary General Wilfrido Villacorta.

Officials said $2 million had been pledged to the fund.

"It's important that we have the political commitment of the region so we can effectively invite the donors to back the program," said Subhash Mozaria, chief technical adviser of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, in a presentation Thursday before the Asean agriculture ministers.

The two-day ministerial meeting came on the heels of an urgent warning by Dr. David Nabarro of the World Health Organization who said Thursday that political leaders must take immediate steps to prevent a human flu pandemic, which could strike if the bird virus mutates into a strain that is both deadly humans and could easily spread among humans.

Between 5 million and 150 million people could die in a human flu pandemic—the higher figure being likely if governments fail to act now, Nabarro said.

But on Friday, the WHO said that while it was impossible to estimate the human toll from such a pandemic, it has warned countries to prepare for up to 7.4 million deaths.

Bird flu has swept through poultry populations in Asia since 2003, killing at least 65 people, most in Vietnam and Thailand. Massive culling of birds has failed to stop the disease from spreading, and regional officials have long complained of a lack of money for testing and vaccinating poultry and for stockpiling medicine. *AP*

Another protest greets Noli along railroad tracks

By Nancy Carvajal

IN CONTRAST TO PREVIOUS VISITS WHICH A local official described as pleasant, a group of angry placard-waving residents greeted Vice President Noli de Castro when he came to suburban Valenzuela City Friday to inspect a relocation site for people displaced by the Northrail project.

The protesters were complaining that the government had failed to provide for electricity, water and other utilities, along with P25,000 in the form of livelihood assistance, which De Castro had supposedly promised them in previous visits.

"The Vice President's visits had always been pleasant for the city's informal settlers—until now," said a local official who asked not to be identified. He said De Castro had visited Valenzuela more than five times before.

As chair of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council, De Castro is overseeing the relocation of thousands of people living along the railroad tracks from Caloocan City all the way to Clark Field in Pampanga. Similar protests have been held in Meycauayan, Bulacan, where a group of residents declared De Castro "persona non grata" a few days ago.

Getting wind of De Castro's visit on Friday, about 30 protesters positioned themselves at an intersection on Punturin Road where the Vice President and his convoy passed en route to a tree-planting ceremony.

"We wanted to air our grievances over his promise of adequate water and electric utilities in our relocation site," said Adelo Flores.

But instead of listening to their demands, the Vice President lectured them, Flores said, adding that De Castro told them they should not waste their energy on mass actions but should busy themselves with earning a living to feed their families.

Flores said De Castro also told them they were not entitled to the livelihood assistance extended to other groups similarly relocated because they were settlers from within the city.

Flores said they wanted to remind De Castro it had been months since he told them that basic utilities would be in place at their relocation site in Bignay, Valenzuela.

RP spa wins 3 awards in Asia-wide tilt

THE FARM AT SAN BENITO, A HEALTH resort in the foothills of Mt. Malarayat in Batangas, took three of 37 industry awards at a recent Asia-wide wellness industry competition, putting the Philippines firmly on the world spa and health resort destination map.

The SpaAsia Crystal Awards cited The Farm at San Benito for Best Holistic Program and Best Wellness Center and Spa at the Wellness Summit held in Hua Hin, Thailand, on Sept. 22.

2nd straight year

The Farm at San Benito, a three-year-old holistic health facility, won for the second straight year in a tough field dominated by international hotel chains and established resorts across Asia.

There were 200 nominees from nine countries in the Asia-Pacific region vying for 37 categories in the competition, which was held for only the second year.

Top winner

The Farm at San Benito's three awards tied with that won by the Ritz-Carlton Bali Resort and Spa. Only the top winner, the Thai-based Chiva-Som International Health Resort, had more awards with four.

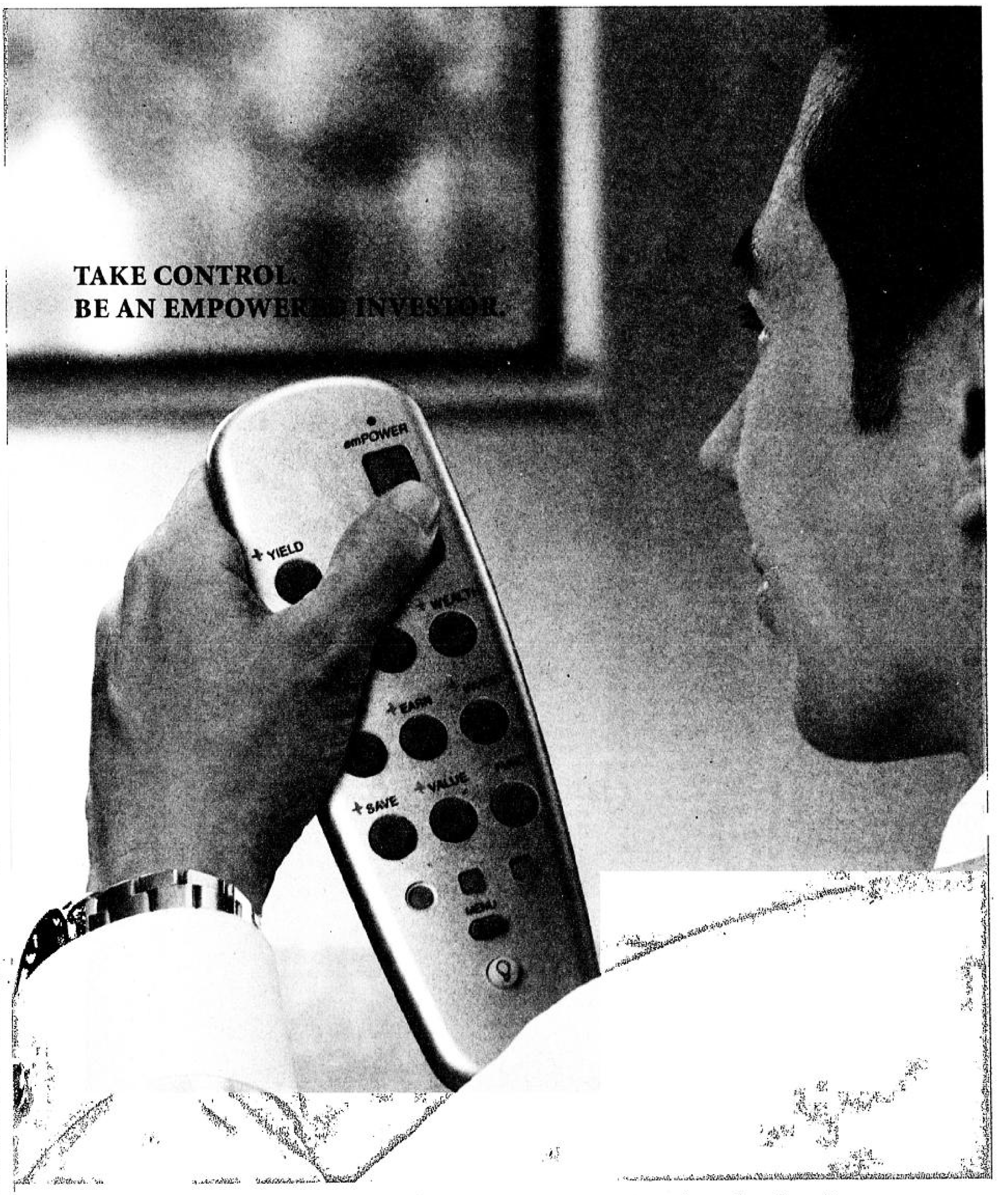
The Farm's founder, Eckard Rempe, who ploughed earnings from an export business into the natural health facility he calls "the Hippocrates Health Resort of Asia," squirms at the "luxury spa" label. He said he was still far from fulfilling his goal of enlightening Filipinos on the natural path to health.

His wife, Perla Rempe, who received the awards for The Farm, noted the initial "Philippines who?" reaction of the big international hoteliers as they swarmed around the Philippine contingent to make serious inquiries about the facility.

Who voted

Michael Loh, group publisher of Singapore-based SpaAsia magazine which organized the event, said that the winner in each category was determined by a 40-40-20 voting system carried out among the magazine's 60,000 readers and the public, a spa or center's clientele, through online polling and paper votes, and among mystery clients sent to the spas by the organizers. The canvassing was carried out from May 1 to July 31 and was audited by Price Waterhouse.

MICHAEL Loh, publisher of SpaAsia Media, presents one of the awards to Perla Rempe of The Farm at San Benito.



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‘Order for my relief did not just come from GHQ’

From page A1

When Gudani asked De Leon why such an instruction was issued considering that "the situation" in his area was "tense," the admiral said: "This is for your protection."

"Protection? I can certainly protect myself, and my headquarters was quite secure," Gudani told the Inquirer in hindsight, adding:

"So I looked at my commander (Teodosio), and of course I could not argue with the FOIC.

"Hindi lang daw sa GHQ *galing ang utos eh* (The order did not just come from GHQ). I cannot recall [who said it]. I did not ask further questions."

Gudani said he and Teodosio then left De Leon's office and parted ways. Later, he said, he called Teodosio by cell phone to ask what he had done wrong.

"He said none," Gudani recalled. "So I said, 'Can I return [to Mindanao] tomorrow? He said, '*Bahala ka* (It's up to you). FOIC has given you an order.'"

According to Gudani, Philippine Marine officers are by tradition responsible to their subordinates.

"I hold my immediate commander to be the same toward me," he said.

No to golf

Days later, Gudani said, De Leon told two of his "mistahs" in the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1973 to phone him and invite him to play golf.

But he said he declined and told them he was "very busy monitoring" what was happening with his unit.

He said he was allowed to return to his post on May 20, after at least two attempts to get De Leon's permission. Army Col. Gominto Pirino took over his command during his absence.

Fourteen months later, Gudani would hear his name mentioned in the "Hello Garci" tape allegedly containing wiretapped conversations between President Macapagal-Arroyo and then Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano.

In one conversation, he was named and identified as being aligned with the camp of opposition standard-bearer Fernando Poe Jr., and who, the male voice said, "we had replaced *(pinalitan namin)* for a while."

Butuan, not Iligan

Gudani also told the Inquirer that his informant had made some "corrections" to his testimony concerning the President's husband, Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo.

He said, quoting his informant, that Mike Arroyo had twice used a private helicopter that landed in Butuan, not Iligan, City to deliver "approximately P500 million in cash" to Mindanao one or two weeks before Election Day.

And the money was in "bags," not "boxes," he said.

He also said his informant phoned him after the hearing to make the corrections and add that Mike Arroyo was "getting some of the money from a congressman from Mindanao."

Gudani named this source in an executive session with the Senate defense committee, which on Wednesday resumed public hearings on the wiretap scandal.

Comelec probe

Commission on Elections chair Benjamin Abalos Sr. had earlier said the poll body would look into why Gudani was pulled out of his post at the height of the vote canvassing.

Abalos said Garcillano, then commissioner in charge of administrative issues, could not have ordered the transfer because he had no authority to do so.

In an interview with the Inquirer, Commissioner Mehol Sadain said Gudani's transfer was a criminal offense that merited prosecution.

He said those found guilty would be jailed and perpetually barred from holding public office.

Sadain also said Gudani's testimony at the Senate would be integrated in the Comelec's own investigation of the "Hello Garci" case.

"All of these will be taken into consideration when we look into the administrative liability of our people in the field. I myself will insist on looking into the liability of these people," Sadain said.

He said it might be too late for the camp of Poe to file a case based on Gudani's testimony because the period for filing electoral protests had lapsed.

However, he said, the Comelec was willing to investigate Gudani's claims on the alleged vote-buying and ballot-tampering in Lanao del Sur and del Norte.

The Comelec's law department is now conducting the inquiry. It has summoned the persons mentioned in the wiretapped conversations, but many have refused to appear.

Gudani had claimed that Garcillano, through the provincial elections supervisor, was virtually "running the elections" in Lanao when Abalos was sidelined by illness for several days before and after the polls.

Invitation to the streets

Gudani, who is scheduled to retire as PMA assistant superintendent on Oct. 4 but was sacked after his testimony at the Senate, has a standing invitation to join the "parliament of the streets."

The invitation was extended yesterday by Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo, who said Gudani was welcome to take his case directly to the public.

"Malacañang is obviously harassing Gudani for being a gentleman and for standing up to tell the whole truth. If only for helping the nation attain the truth, Gudani will be welcomed, heard and congratulated in the parliament of the streets," Ocampo said.

He said Bayan Muna would suggest that Gudani be invited to speak at the rallies, symposia and fora of the Solidarity Movement, Bagong Alyansang Makabayan and Gloria Step Down Movement.

Ocampo called on other ranking military and police officials to follow Gudani's lead.

‘Tall tale,’ say 2 solons

ADMINISTRATION LAWMAKERS dismissed as "a tall tale" the claim of retired Maj. Gen. Ramon Montaño, a former head of the defunct Constabulary, that 70 percent of the military was ready to break the chain of command because of the imminent court-martial of Brig. Gen. Francisco Gudani and Col. Alexander Balutan, PMA assistant commandant of cadets.

Rep. Vincent Garcia (NPC, Davao City), vice chair of the House committee on national defense and security, and Rep. Marcelino Libanan (Lakas, Eastern Samar), a member of the Commission on Appointments, said Montaño was "obviously bluffing in an attempt to portray disunity" in the AFP.

"Our soldiers are fully committed to their sworn oath to protect the people and the state. Our soldiers cannot compromise national security due to politics. It is unfair to portray our soldiers as defiant to their superiors," Garcia said.

Libanan said Montaño should not play the retired generals' game at the expense of the presidency and national security.

"If retired generals choose to support and sympathize with Gudani and Balutan, we respect that. But we appeal to them not to drag the entire military establishment to their politics of noise," Libanan said.

Philip C. Tubeza

Weary execs …

From page A1

Weary execs are mixing business with pleasure by holding meetings while a masseuse administers reflexology to their tired feet.

The ancient healing art of reflexology is enormously popular in Malaysia, keeping an abundance of cheap-and-cheerful foot massage parlors in business throughout the city.

In the downtown shopping and entertainment district of Bukit Bintang, dozens of outlets cluster on one street alone, and stay open late into the night as customers drop by on their way home from restaurants and nightclubs.

Reflexology center

But in the latest innovation, a reflexology center has set up meeting rooms so that busy executives can have their toes twiddled while they work and hold meetings, interrupted only by the occasional painful twinge or muffled "ouch." Located in a century-old row of shophouses which are now occupied by stylish bars and eateries, the Old Cottage Reflexology Center tells business people to kick off their shoes and experience some pain in order to conduct meetings with a clearer head.

"Many of our regular clients are executives from big corporations, dressed in suits and ties, armed with laptops, who come in to have their meetings in a relaxed environment," says manager Mohan Singh. "You can think more clearly while you have your feet massaged, it's so relaxing and less stressful."

Its air-conditioned "meeting rooms" accommodate up to eight people, and are equipped with cable television and power points to charge laptops and mobile phones.

7,000 nerve endings

The center's Chinese therapists administer a one-hour session at a cost of 50 ringgit (P744), which is designed to give a good workout to the 7,000 nerve endings in the feet.

"You must be very relaxed during the reflexology session. It is very important, so that you will have a clear mind, especially if you are discussing business," Singh says.

Reflexology works on the principle that each part of the human body corresponds to a point on the sole of the foot, and professes that a skilled practitioner can help relieve ailments like sinus or migraines.

Masjaliza Hamzah, a 30-something staffer for a Malaysian rights organization who held a business meeting at the Old Cottage center recently, admits she found the idea distasteful at first.

"When it was first suggested, I thought it was really bizarre," she says through gritted teeth, recalling how she grimaced in pain during the session. "My toes, I don't particularly like to share them with other people."

But there are upsides, including the privacy of not lining up in the public row of chairs which is a feature of most centers.

More intimate

"In some ways, it's a little bit more intimate. But it's ideal to cultivate a relationship with a contact, if you don't talk about stuff that's too heavy duty," she says. "Working on the computer is not so conducive while the foot massage is happening, but talking certainly is not a problem at all. If I lose my train of thought or whatever, that's normal while I'm having my coffee as well."

In Malaysia's rapidly developing capital, the surging demand for emotional and physical health has spawned a veritable craze for spas and fitness centers which have become a fashionable way for urbanites to spend their weekend.

The popularity of reflexology is part of a boom in the holistic healthcare industry that has seen city-dwellers flocking to unwind trying everything from yoga to belly dancing. *AFP*

‘If I didn’t take the risk, where’s the sacrifice in that?’

From page A1

active in the CCF church in Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

‘A Modern Crusader’

In *This is my Story*, an evangelical book published by OMF Literature in 2004, Gudani contributed an essay recalling his days as "a bemedalled yet proud, hot-tempered and arrogant officer" who flaunted his advanced education and "a financially rewarding family business."

All these "went to my head," he said in a piece titled "A Modern Crusader."

It got to the point that his wife discovered that he was having an affair, his family life collapsed "in shambles"—and his career took a crushing blow with his superior sacking him on the basis of "wrong information fed" by his detractors.

Today, he may—in his own words—sometimes strike others as "too soft" for a military man, especially when he starts quoting biblical verses or invoking "the glory of God" in conversations.

But this softie was thrice wounded battling Moro rebels in Mindanao, went through years of training in the United States, completed a management course at the Asian Institute of Management, and was a one-time member of the national shooting team.

"I will not offer anything to God that does not mean anything to me," Gudani said, quoting the psalmist David, when the Inquirer visited him at his residence at BF Homes Executive Village in Parañaque City.

He said that if there was anyone with mischief in mind, his house was hard to miss because of the Philippine flag permanently hoisted by the front gate.

Inside, visitors are in for a surprise with Christmas décor— including a six-foot Christmas tree—already adorning the living room. (The display stays all year round, according to his wife Ofelia.)

As though preempting a "lifestyle check" on him, Gudani offered the information that they acquired the upscale property back in the 1980s when he was still a captain.

The house was paid for with Ofelia's money, earned before they got married, as "a supplier of office supplies and construction materials to the Air Force," he said.

Six white, fluffy dogs—some with their curly fur dyed pink—guard the Gudani household.

The interview was repeatedly interrupted by calls or text messages on Gudani's two cell phones, one of which has for a ring tone Billy Joel's song "Honesty" spliced with a recording of the now famous "Hello Garci" line.

Gudani said that since his testimony, his phone's inbox had repeatedly run out of memory by dint of the stream of text messages "congratulating" him, some sent by friends from as far away as the United States.

But what his admirers see as a heroic episode in a life-altering battle is just the beginning for this "crusader."

Gudani faces court-martial proceedings because the military high command regards his Senate appearance as defiance of the President's Executive Order No. 464.

Issued on the same day that Gudani testified at the Senate, the EO bars Cabinet members and police and military officials from congressional hearings without Ms Arroyo's permission.

Along with his deputy and co-witness Col. Alexander Balutan, Gudani is being charged with violation of the Articles of War for disregarding an order from the Commander in Chief, according to the AFP brass.

Glorifying God

Strongly denying any links to any political group, Gudani declared: "My only motivation for doing this is I want to glorify God.

"And I want to instill love of God and country in our people. I want to show the nation that there are still officers in the Armed Forces who fear God, and that we are willing to sacrifice our careers for God and country.

CADET GUDANI, Philippine Military Academy Class 1973. He also has master's degrees in business management from the Asian Institute of Management and national security administration from the National Defense College in Camp Aguinaldo.

"Anything that challenges me now is also challenging God."

It's a declaration that Gudani's confidant, Pastor Johnny Pabia, can confirm.

Pabia said Gudani was ready to come forward as early as three months ago, soon after the "Hello Garci" tape that mentioned his name surfaced.

According to Pabia, Gudani made the crucial decision following an emotional four-hour consultation and "pray-over" with him and another pastor at a coffee shop in Alabang in late June.

"He was vacillating whether to speak the truth or keep silent because of practical reasons," the pastor told the Inquirer also on Friday. "But he later resolved that he would first seek the Lord, and He would take care of all else that he loved most, including his family."

Gudani sought the Alabang meeting after more than a week of intense personal struggle over what he should do amid the brewing scandal, Pabia said.

In the tape that supposedly preserved Ms Arroyo's tapped conversations with Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano, Gudani was mentioned as someone who was balking at condoning moves to steal the 2004 election.

As soon as the tape was made public, Gudani received information that he would be summoned to testify at an upcoming congressional inquiry, Pabia said, adding that this was when the general's anxiety escalated.

Pabia, who met Gudani during a round of golf in Baguio last April, said the general was primarily concerned about the security of his wife and two children. Then there was the possibility of losing his retirement benefits.

During the meeting, Pabia said he and another pastor told Gudani to "speak the truth, but you have to face the consequences."

"In the first two hours, he was hesitant [and] confused," Pabia said. "But he soon resolved it himself."

Pabia recalled the general speaking of how he valued righteousness among leaders in society.

"Happiness and well-being spring from righteous rule," Pabia said. "When the leaders are righteous, people are happy and contented. He was a strong believer of this."

‘Do not fear’

At the end of the prayer session, Pabia said he left the general, by then visibly relieved, a note bearing Isaiah 41:10: "Do not fear; for I am with you; be not dismayed; for I am your God, I will make you strong; yes, I will help you; yes, I will uphold you with the right hand of my righteousness."

Pabia said a number of Christian Churches would issue this week a manifesto of support for Gudani's courage and conviction.

"Before, I was really dismayed [at all military men]," Pabia said. "But when I met him, I realized there were still generals like him who have conviction. There's still hope."

F-5 fighter jet takes last flight …

From page A1

move because I learned that the imported parts are very difficult to obtain now," he said.

They defended Cory

It was an F-5 piloted by Maj. Danilo Atienza that on Dec. 1, 1989, defended the administration of then President Corazon Aquino against a coup attempt, by bombing and strafing a Sikorsky helicopter, seven T-28s and a fuel depot in Sangley Point to deprive rebel soldiers of air power.

Atienza died in the assault.

The F-5s, too, turned the tide of battle against Abu Sayyaf bandits in 2001.

Brig. Gen. Manuel Natividad, who made the final flight as chief of the Air Defense Wing, said the decommissioning rites for the F-5s—attended by other retired pilots—also symbolized uncertainty for Basa Air Base and the PAF in general.

Fightertown without fighters

Without the F-5s, Natividad said, "Fightertown"—the label airmen had given the base—was now without its mighty wings.

"Comparatively, we are really down as far as air defense is concerned," Natividad said.

The air strength and role of Fightertown in external defense would have to be addressed, he said.

"If not, [it] will affect the air force significantly," he said.

Natividad also expressed concern over the transfer of skills and knowledge from one generation of pilots to another.

He said he was envious of other Southeast Asian countries that were not cutting defense spending and were maintaining air defense superiority amid the economic crisis.

Decision makers, he said, should realize the "need to keep a fighter force."

His voice cracked as he talked of the F-5s: "From Basa it first flew. To Basa it flew last."

End of an era

The meaning of the occasion was not lost on Lt. Gen. Jose Reyes, PAF commander.

"We have just witnessed the end of an era in the Air Force," he said, adding this was "met with a heavy heart at Fightertown."

The arrival of the F-5s ended the bi-winged, fabric-covered, hand-cranked airplanes in the PAF.

From 1965 to 1998, the government received 37 F-5 jets from the United States.

The five S-211 Augusta, which the 5th Tactical Fighter Group operates, are a poor match to the F-5s, Natividad said.

Okol, 75, and his five fellow pilots [he identified them only as Maj. De Leon, Major Franco, Capt. Alegarbes, Capt. Andrews and Capt. Laquindanum] helped the PAF achieve mastery in flying F-5s.

Together with a 50-member maintenance crew, Okol's team trained as combat pilots and instructors at Williams Air Force Base in Texas in 1965.

Pining for F-5

Natividad said the lifespan of an F-5 was 15 years but the PAF was able to lengthen it by diligent maintenance and repair.

The 36 fighter planes needed to replace the F-5s cost $35 million (P1.96 billion) each, Reyes said.

Okol retired in 1982 and moved to Philippine Airlines where he worked until 1995. All those years, he said, he yearned to fly the F-5 again.

His son, Miguel Ernesto, a PAF captain, also flew the aircraft.

Evangelista, 49, said that although the F-5s were old, they flew fast and high during good weather.

His last flight was in May 2002. His wingman, the late Capt. Daniel Policarpio, lost control of the machine and crashed into a school in Mabalacat, Pampanga, while on a training maneuver in the Balikatan exercises.

All the 10 F-5s at that time had since been grounded.

‘Older than me’

Their gray paint fading and chipping off, nine F-5s stood solemnly side by side at the air base. Tin foil covered their cockpit canopies, protecting them from scratches.

Save for an occasional visit from a mechanic, who would "cannibalize" them for parts to be used to keep other F-5s flying, these planes here had been left untouched since 2002.

"I have no orders what to do with these. We are just here to guard them," Lt. Elesio Asistol, maintenance officer, told the Inquirer.

Lack of funds and a shift from external to internal security have been cited as reasons for finally removing the F-5s from the PAF's inventory of air assets.

"Yes," Evangelista smiled sheepishly, "the plane is actually older [than me]."

12 death convicts get reprieve

By Armand Nocum

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO has granted 90-day reprieves to 12 death convicts—10 of them convicted rapists—rescheduling their execution by lethal injection from this month to January next year.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita informed Bureau of Corrections Director Vicente Vinarao about the reprieves in a memorandum dated Sept. 27, 2005.

"We enclose for your information and guidance certified true copies of the orders of the President, dated 26 September 2005, granting reprieve to the ... convicts," Ermita said in the memorandum.

Among those granted a reprieve were Ireneo Padilla and Tomas Marcellana, both convicted of rape, and Renato Dizon, who was convicted of robbery with rape. Their executions were moved from Oct. 3 to Jan. 2, 2006.

William Alpe and Fernando Villanueva, who were both convicted of rape, and Pamfilo Quimson, who was sentenced to die for multiple murder, were also granted reprieves and their executions were moved from Oct. 10 to Jan. 9, 2006.

Ms Arroyo also postponed the executions of Pablo Santos, who was also found guilty of rape; Dindo Pajotal, convicted of robbery with homicide, and Jimmy Jacob, sentenced to die for incestuous rape, from Oct. 17 to Jan. 16, 2006.

The executions of Rodelio Aquino and Geronimo Borromeo, both again convicted of rape, were moved from Oct. 24 to Jan. 23, 2006. Juan Cariñaga, another rape convict, was also given a reprieve and his execution moved from Oct. 26 to Jan. 24 2006.

Since she became President, Ms Arroyo has routinely granted reprieves to death convicts scheduled for execution.

KMU seeks answers to another killing

By Jerome Aning

THE KILUSANG MAYO UNO called on the government to solve the murder of another of its senior officials—this time the vice chair of its chapter in the Caraga Region.

The latest victim, 51-year-old teacher Vicky Samonte, headed the Andres Soriano College Employees Union in Bislig, Surigao del Sur.

She and a fellow teacher, Manzueta Sanchez, had just attended a school gathering on Friday and were on their way home on board a tricycle in Barangay Magangoy in Bislig when a third passenger ordered the driver to stop.

The unidentified passenger lunged at Samonte and stabbed her in the back. The blade pierced her heart leading to her death.

Samonte's murder came a day after the burial of Diosdado "Ka Fort" Fortuna, president of the employees union at Nestlé Philippines in Cabuyao, Laguna.

Fortuna, an active member of KMU's National Council and a labor leader for 29 years, was gunned down by unidentified persons on Sept. 22.

KMU spokesperson Prestolino Suyat issued a statement condemning the incident: "We vehemently condemn the merciless killing of Ms Samonte. If her brutal death had something to do with her activities in the union or if it was part of the ongoing political killings in the country, we won't tolerate it and would seek justice for her and her family."

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The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Protests greet higher Indonesian fuel prices

JAKARTA, INDONESIA—INDONESIA MORE THAN DOUBLED THE average cost of fuel on Saturday in a bid to stave off an economic crisis, sparking transport strikes and violent protests from people who have long enjoyed some of the cheapest gas prices in the world.

The larger-than-expected increases, announced after a Cabinet meeting Friday and implemented Saturday, raise the price of gasoline by 87 percent to 44 US cents per liter, more than double the price of diesel fuel and triple the cost of kerosene.

The increases will push up the price of everything from rice to cigarettes in the sprawling country of 220 million people, half of whom live on less than US$2 a day.

Protesters burned tires and effigies of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, while others commandeered diesel trucks and blocked roads.

Yudhoyono said Indonesia's cash-strapped government, which for years has subsidized fuel to let motorists fill up for less than US$0.24 cents per liter, could not afford to keep doing so amid spiraling global energy prices.

Some economists praised Yudhoyono's decision, saying it was a bold move that could prevent additional hikes in the future. Others questioned whether the country's poorest would be able to bear the additional burden.

"It's way too drastic," said Udin, 58, a security guard and the father of 3-year-old twin boys. "Prices are already too high. Now they're going to go through the roof."

Thousands of demonstrators have taken to the streets nationwide in recent days and rowdy rallies were reported in at least 10 cities early Saturday, though the turnout was small given the size of the nation and its history of massive street protests.

There were scattered reports of violence on Saturday, with hundreds of students burning tires in South Sulawesi province following an all-night protest and demonstrators in Riau briefly commandeering a diesel truck.

Transport strikes in at least seven cities left thousands of people stranded.

"I realize that this is not a popular policy ... but we have to do it to save the nation's budget and the future of the country," Yudhoyono said, calling on everyone to remain calm, saying "anarchy will only deter investment."

Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim nation, is Southeast Asia's only member of Opec (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries), but has to import oil because of decades of declining investment in exploration and extraction.

Most in Indonesia agree that the current level of fuel subsidies—which have eaten up nearly a quarter of the budget this year—are unsustainable.

"Economically speaking, the president has made the right decision," Kahlil Rowter, an analyst with Mandiri Securities, was quoted as saying by the newspaper Kompas. "By raising the prices all at once, the government will be able to tackle many of its problems by the year's end, spurring economic recovery in 2006." *AP*

NYT reporter names source of CIA leak

WASHINGTON—AFTER 85 DAYS IN JAIL FOR refusing to name her source, New York Times reporter Judith Miller testified on Friday about conversations with a top aide to Vice President Dick Cheney to a grand jury investigating who leaked the name of a CIA operative.

Legal sources close to the case said Miller, who was freed on Thursday, gave the federal grand jury in Washington a detailed account of two conversations she had in July 2003 with Cheney's chief of staff, Lewis "Scooter" Libby.

Miller said she agreed to testify about the conversations only after receiving what she called a "personal, voluntary" waiver of confidentiality from her source. Miller said the source had conveyed the waiver in the form of a letter and a phone call to her in jail.

Though Miller declined to publicly name Libby outside of the grand jury room, attorneys in the case said he was her source. During her testimony, one source said, "she walked them through those conversations."

After obtaining her waiver, Miller said her lawyers secured an agreement with Fitzgerald to narrow the scope of her testimony to her conversations with that single source.

Lawyers close to the case said Miller's testimony appeared to clear the way for prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald to wrap up his two-year-old inquiry into who leaked CIA operative Valerie Plame's identity and whether anyone broke the law in doing so.

Plame's diplomat husband, Joseph Wilson, said the administration had leaked her name, damaging her ability to work undercover, to get back at him for criticizing President George W. Bush's Iraq policy.

The lawyers said Fitzgerald could now move quickly to bring indictments in the case, or he could conclude that no crime was committed and end his investigation and possibly issue a report on his findings.

Fitzgerald had indicated he could wrap up his investigation once he obtained Miller's testimony.

The outcome could shake up the Bush White House, already reeling from criticism over its response to Hurricane Katrina and the indictment of House Republican leader Tom DeLay on a conspiracy charge related to campaign financing. *Reuters*

19 dead, 51 hurt in new Bali blasts

BALI, INDONESIA—BOMBS WENT OFF ALmost simultaneously Saturday in two tourist areas of the Indonesian resort island of Bali, killing at least 19 people and wounding 51 others, police and hospital officials said. Foreign tourists were among the victims.

The blasts at Jimbaran beach and a bustling outdoor shopping district in downtown Kuta "were clearly the work of terrorists," Maj. Gen. Police Ansyaad Mbai, a top Indonesian antiterrorism official, told The Associated Press.

Putu Putra Wisada, spokesperson at the Sangla Hospital in Denpasar, said 11 dead were taken to the hospital and 38 others were admitted with injuries — eight Australians, two Americans and 28 Indonesians.

Komang, a receptionist at the Graha Asih Hospital, close to Jimbaran Bay, said there were at least eight people in the morgue and that doctors were treating at least 13 wounded.

"It's a horrible scene," she said. "Some people have had their heads blown off."

The bombs went off at around 7:30 p.m. at two restaurants that were packed with foreign and Indonesian diners.

I Wayan Kresna said he witnessed the first bomb go off at a seafood restaurant on Jimbaran beach. He counted at least two dead and said many others were brought to a hospital.

"I helped lift up the bodies," he told the privately run El Shinta radio. "There was blood everywhere."

The other explosion hit the Raja restaurant in a bustling outdoor shopping center of Kuta, about 30 km away. All floors of the three-story building were badly damaged in the blast, an AP reporter at the scene said.

The exact number of blasts was not clear. Some witnesses said they heard at least two explosions at each location. It was not clear, however, if they were separate blasts or echoes.

Kuta was the site of the October 2002 bomb attacks blamed on the al-Qaida-linked terror group Jemaah Islamiyah that killed 202 people. *AP*

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tiful," Michael Griffin, the
Nasa, told Reuters at the
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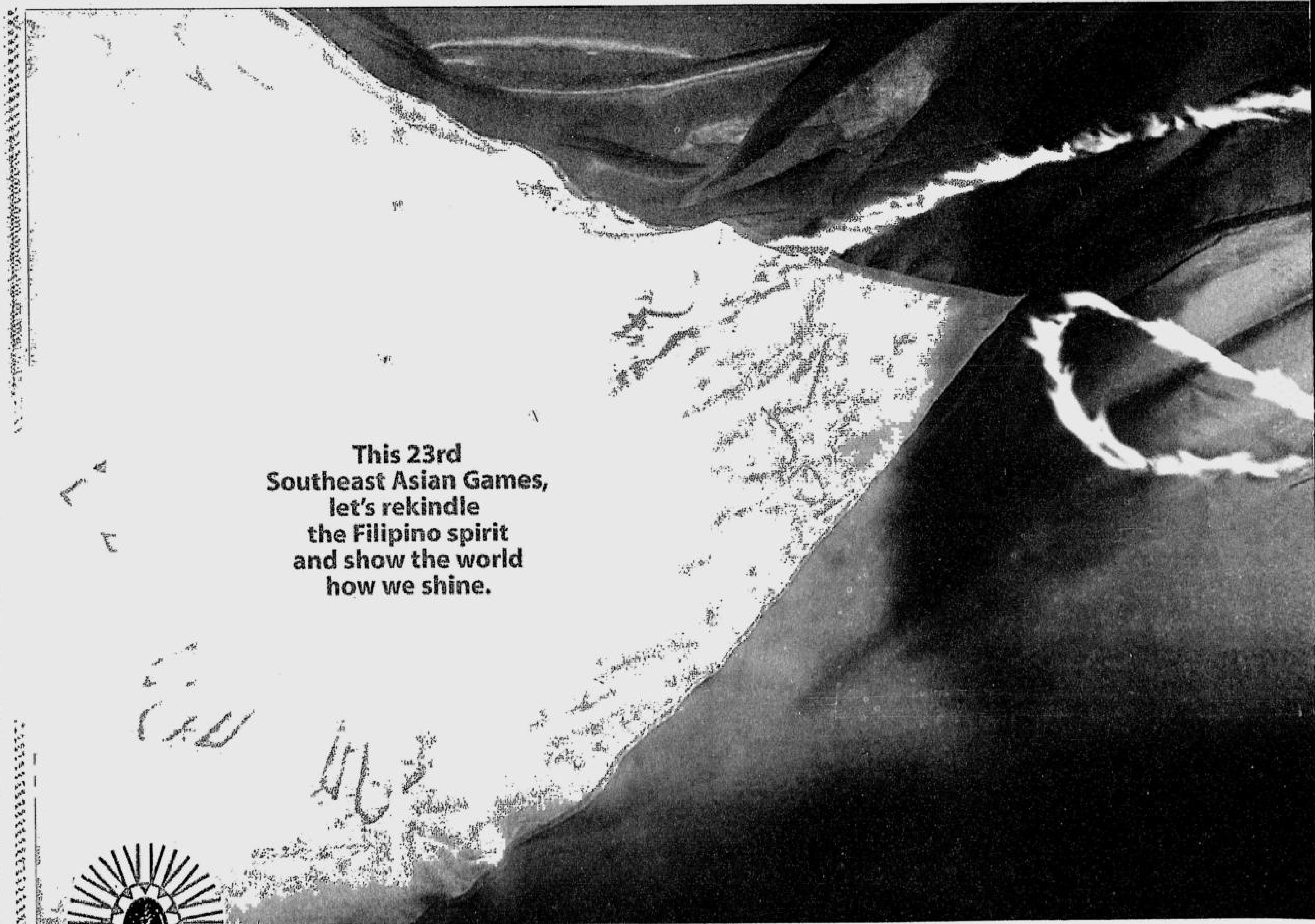
On board the Russian
mander William McArthur,
Valery Tokarev, and America
tist Gregory Olsen, who is d
in orbit. The crew face a dau

Olsen, rich enough to affo
ticket, will spend his time in
ments. He then hitches a ri
outgoing US-Russian crew.

"He's doing much more
ing out of the window," said
utive of Space Adventures,
ranged the trip.

Olsen's daughter said tha
not worried that it might
strange that my father is no
Earth right now."

Flight controllers said the
live feed showed them
where the only personal tou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Thailand invites tsunami victims' relatives

BANGKOK—INVITATIONS FOR AN ALL EXPENSES paid three-day trip to the tsunami one-year memorial ceremony in Thailand will be sent in mid-October to thousands of victims' relatives around the world, officials said.

The Thai foreign ministry will coordinate with foreign embassies in Bangkok to send invitations to some 1,740 immediate family members of those who passed away in the tsunami and about 2,000 injured victims, said Kiattikhun Chartprasert, foreign ministry deputy spokesperson.

"We'll ask the embassies in Bangkok to extend our invitations... We believe we'll be able to send the invitations by the middle of October," Kiattikhun said by telephone. The invitations will be sent to about 50 countries, he said.

The Thai government is inviting the guests for a tsunami memorial service on Dec. 26.

"The letter will tell them what we will pay for, which includes the price of the air ticket, accommodation for two nights and three days, including food, from Dec. 25-27. The Thai government will take care of them," Kiattikhun said.

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra on Thursday said that if the people who are invited have others who want to join them for the trip, Thailand will offer a special air fare on Thai Airways and special hotel rates.

The huge earthquake-driven waves that ravaged the Andaman Sea coast in southern Thailand killed nearly 5,400 people, about half them foreign tourists. *AP*

cArthur (left) salutes US space tourist Gregory Olsen (center) as Russian ooks on during testing of the space-suit prior to the launch of Soyuz-TMA-7 at azakhstan. AFP

-US crew, 3rd space last off into orbit

—A RUSSIA-US TWO-
ird space tourist blasted
ound for orbit and the In-

ocket climbed into a blue
steppe of Central Asia,
ntil only a ball of flame

magnificent. It was beau-
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d a reported $20 million
space conducting experi-
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space than simply look-
ric Anderson, chief exec-
the company which ar-

until the launch she had
be dangerous. "And it's
actually with me on this

crew were doing well. A
ched inside the Soyuz,
visible was a miniature troll with a shock of pink hair dangling as if from a car dashboard.

The Soyuz is scheduled to dock with the station in two days. At the moment Russia bears the responsibility for ferrying people and supplies to the $100-billion station after Nasa grounded its shuttle fleet in July, having failed to fix a technical problem that killed seven astronauts in 2003.

McArthur and Tokarev will be busy keeping the station ticking over, but they should also do two or three space walks, according to NASA's website. However, only the shuttle is big enough to ship the parts needed to finish the station.

Although the launch went swimmingly, one small hitch remains. McArthur, in theory, has only a one-way ticket.

Roskosmos, Russia's space agency, meets its obligations to fly Nasa astronauts at the end of this year and with the shuttle potentially out of action, the United States needs to cut a deal with Moscow to allow him to fly home on the Soyuz. *Reuters*

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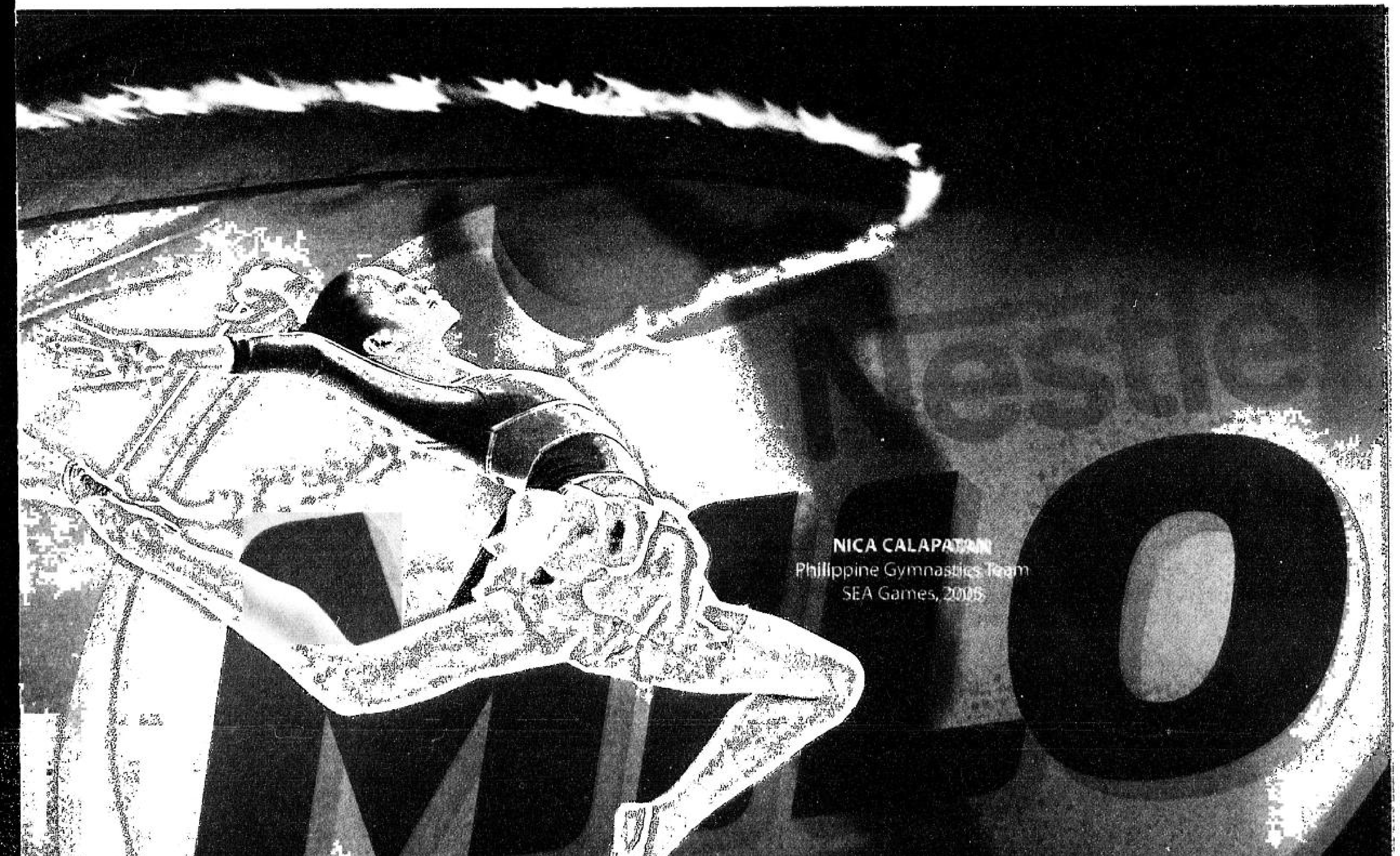

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Politics of insult

EDITORIAL

AN INTENSELY POLITICAL WEEK ENDED ON A characteristic note. On Friday, President Macapagal-Arroyo rose to defend her Executive Order 464, which its growing number of critics call unconstitutional. Instead of legal arguments, however, the President anchored her defense on political realities.

"I have to put my foot down for the sake of the people, for the sake of enabling the government to work rather than be disabled by the politics of insult," she told descendants of the revolutionaries of 1896 in a Malacañang ceremony.

But the tack she and her own men have taken, in defending the order that requires senior officials to secure the permission of the President before they can appear in legislative inquiries, inadvertently reveals the essential nature of the controversy surrounding the new EO. Which takes precedence, power or principle?

To be sure, the President has grounds for thinking that the Senate has been less than courteous to her men. The memory of the Senate Blue Ribbon committee's high-handed treatment of one of her alter egos, National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales, when he testified—unsatisfactorily, we must add—on the Venable lobbying contract, must still be fresh.

Even more important, however, the President thinks she herself is under attack in the Senate. On Friday, she said her opponents had "transferred the battleground to the Senate." Two days before that, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said much the same thing: "It seems that the impeachment issue is in the Senate without the benefit of ... any impeachment complaint being brought before [it]. [But] there is no Chief Justice presiding over it."

In his attacks on Senate President Franklin Drilon, whom he has accused of "setting up" the President when the senator was still a close ally, Presidential Spokesman Ignacio Bunye has also attacked the different inquiries in the Senate as investigations "in aid of destabilization." Said a combative Bunye: "The purpose of these investigations is to weaken the President and eventually oust her, and part of this plot is no less than Senate President Franklin Drilon."

Even if that were true, however, the President has no right to obstruct any chamber of Congress from doing its work. And that, precisely, is what EO 464 has done: to elevate her political concerns into a so-called legal right.

The skirmishes on EO 464, and the ongoing war of attrition involving Marine general Francisco Gudani, cannot disguise the overarching Palace strategy, which is clear enough to read: It's to fight fire with fire, insult with contempt-curling-the-corner-of-the-mouth insult.

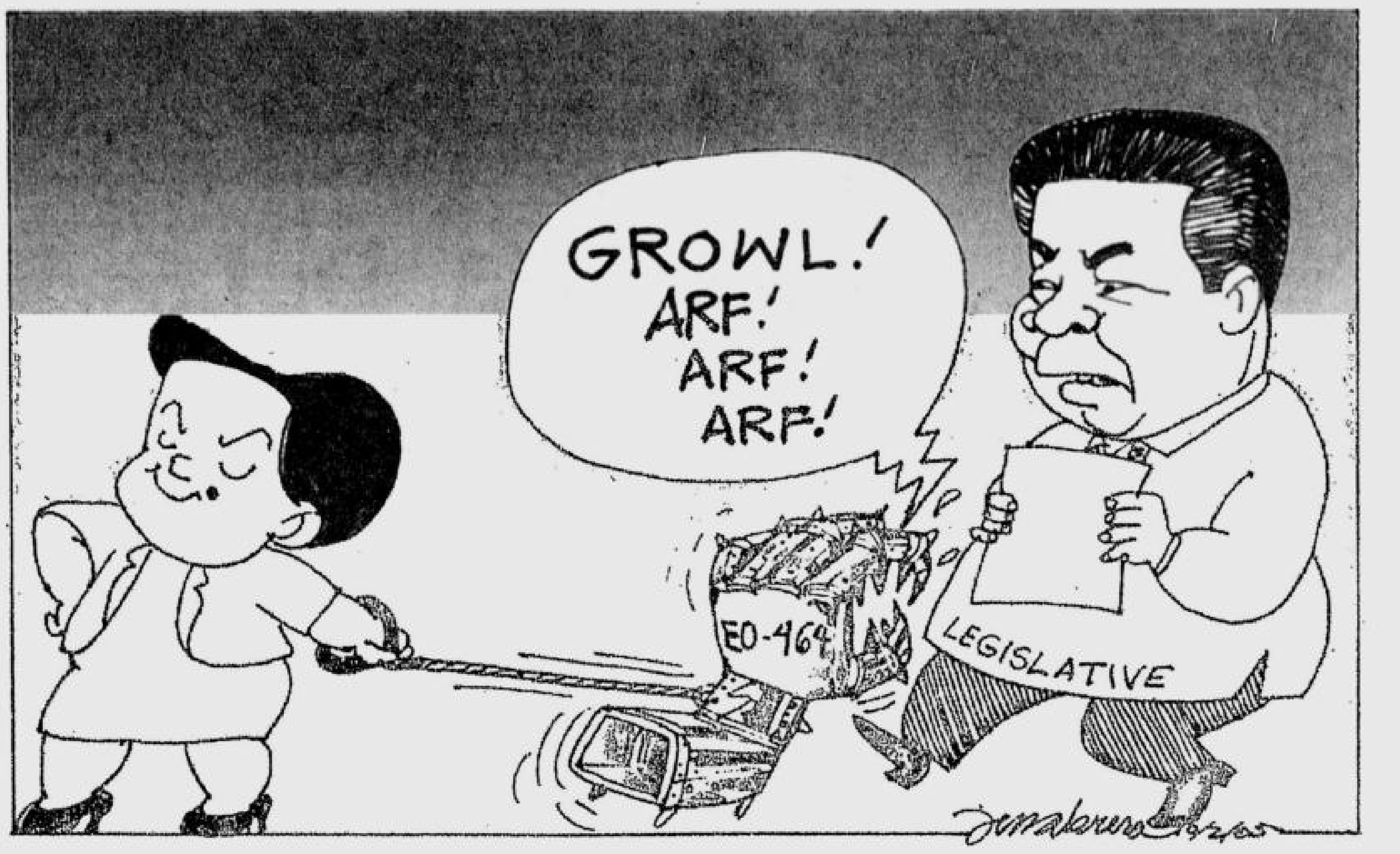
The other day, for instance, Bunye could no longer hide his disdain for the Senate. "Our collective experience has shown that, with very few exceptions, these investigations wasted taxpayers' money, and served no other purpose than to damage the reputations of those who agree to appear and who are persecuted as though they are guilty of unsubstantiated charges."

Many people might share Bunye's accurately described sentiments, but it doesn't mean that because the Executive no longer sees eye to eye with the Legislative, it can force the work in any chamber of Congress to ground to a halt.

Bunye's "collective experience," then, is not so much justification as yet another sorry example of the politics of insult.

On Rizal Day 2002, when she said she did not want to seek a full term, the President made a candid admission: "since I'm among the principal figures in the divisive national events for the last two or three years, my political efforts can only result in never-ending divisiveness." At the vin d'honneur 10 days later, Ms Arroyo explained why her legacy projects needed a different kind of power. "There is a power that commands fear. This kind of power only invites constant challenge. And then there is the greater power that invites respect. This is the power that convinces, and grows with the cooperation it inspires by spreading the circle of its benefits. This is the power I seek."

It is distressing to note that, if only to prove her continuing capacity to govern, the President today has prioritized the power that "only invites constant challenge" over the principle of dialogue, the rule of law, and the cooperation inspired by an ever-spreading circle of benefits.



The desperate measures to silence Gonzales

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THE DESPERATE MEASURES BEING TAKEN by the administration to save Norberto Gonzales from further Senate grilling cannot be simply out of sympathy for the beleaguered national security adviser. There must be a more sinister reason why they are anxious to prevent him from succumbing to insistent interrogation and finally revealing the other person responsible with him for the onerous Venable contract.

That other person could be no one else but President Macapagal-Arroyo. Gonzales would certainly not dare the ire of the Senate by concealing any one else equal or inferior to him in rank who should share the blame with him. But he dare not antagonize GMA. Only President Arroyo can put him to task for involving her in the agreement that the Republic has already terminated for being grossly prejudicial to our country. She is the person Gonzales was protecting with his evasive answers at the Senate investigation the other Wednesday. When asked if she was aware of the subject contract, he said she knew about it only slightly.

This was unbelievable if only because of the enormous retainer our government agreed to pay Venable LLP at $75,000 monthly, the first three months in advance, for a total of $900,000 for the whole term of one year. That translates to P50,400,000, which is not peanuts to our government that cannot even meet our local needs, let alone service our foreign debt. Yet, if Gonzales is to be believed, President Arroyo left everything to him as if he were negotiating a minor contract involving only pesos and centavos.

And, of course, there are the services contracted for by the Republic, which includes the promise of Venable to exert efforts to persuade the US Congress to appropriate funds for the expenses to be incurred by the Republic of the Philippines in the revision of our Constitution for the establishment of a parliamentary system to replace the present government. In his discretion, if he is to be believed, he alone is responsible for inviting the Americans to interfere in the proposed change of our fundamental law in disdain of our free will as a sovereign state.

Gonzales' claim that we need not worry because the stipulated retainer for the Venable contract will be paid by private donors is another ridiculous lie. He adds that he does not know who these donors are and in the next breath says he must first get their consent before he can reveal their identity. His answer to the Senate requires the permission of the private donors? Gonzales should understand that the Senate can demand the unconditional answer it seeks and may even summon those donors themselves, if they really exist, to be also investigated. Non-compliance will place them in contempt of the Senate like the evasive Gonzales.

The defenders of Gonzales even invoke the separation of powers to immunize the department head, as the alter ego of the President, from the investigative authority of the Senate. Such representation does not entitle the Cabinet member to exercise all the powers and enjoy all the perquisites of the President. The secretary cannot veto bills or declare amnesty or proclaim martial law. Only the President can do these, even as the immunities he enjoys are his alone and may not be shared by his alter ego.

In fact, as I observed in this column yesterday, Art. VI, Sec. 22 of the Constitution specifically provides that the heads of departments may, even without the permission of the President, appear before either House of Congress upon its request. "Request" may harden to "require" in case of unwillingness of the Cabinet member to comply. This is an express exception to the doctrine of separation of powers.

That this is not an absolute rule is also supported by jurisprudence. In United States vs. Richard M. Nixon, 418 US 863, the US Supreme Court did not sustain the respondent's refusal to surrender certain tapes concerning the Watergate scandal, and held that "... neither the doctrine of separation of powers, nor the need for confidentiality of high-level communications, without more, can sustain an absolute, unqualified Presidential privilege of immunity from judicial process under all circumstances." This could also apply to legislative process, and with more force against only a department head like Norberto Gonzales.

And now comes the startling news that President Arroyo has forbidden the members of his Cabinet and of the Armed Forces from appearing in any legislative investigation without her permission. Two military officers have already been relieved for revealing information against her concerning the Garci tapes. Other executive officials with similar secrets are warned to keep them under wraps, or else.

If the President has nothing to hide, as she insists, why is she prohibiting her subordinates in the Executive Department from cooperating with Congress in its investigation of the many scandals bedeviling her administration? "The wicked flee when no man pursueth, but the righteous are as bold as a lion."

Poignant

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THERE IS A POIGNANT STORY ABOUT A 20-year-old girl who asked her parents for a car on her birthday. To her dismay, her father handed her a Bible. But instead of receiving it, she threw it in anger, then left home never to return. After some years, her parents died in a plane crash. She went to the funeral and, surprisingly, she found the Bible she had refused to receive years back. When she opened it, she found an envelope with a car key—and a message: "Happy birthday, we love you! The car is still in the garage. Dad and Mom."

* * *

There is yet another poignant story about a father who, while cleaning his brand-new car, heard a scratching sound and saw his 8-year-old son writing something on the car door. In a fit of anger, he hit the hand of his son so hard (unknowingly with a wrench) that the kid had to be brought to the hospital. When they came home, he looked at the car door and on it were written the words: "I love you Daddy."

* * *

In today's Gospel (Mt. 21, 33-43), we hear of a poignant story about the tenants who maltreated and killed the servants of their landowner. In fact, the tenants also killed the landowner's son whom He sent to them. Not only were these tenants unjust. They were also unproductive. Sad to say, in our present day and time, acts of maltreatment go on, injustices abound, killings are rampant, and truth is hidden and bound.

* * *

Public leaders must not forget that they are just tenants, and they are answerable to the landowner. Power is just leased to them, and their power emanates from the people whom they have promised to serve. It is not only saddening, but also sickening and disgusting when so-called public servants become arrogant, proud, deceitful and abusive. And it is doubly saddening when they get away with such behavior, or so it seems.

* * *

"*Wala na ngang ginagawa, gumagawa pa* (Already doing nothing, and still, making money)." This best describes many of our so-called public servants. They have all the perks and privileges, and they rake in all the money (of the people!), and they do not really serve. How long will this situation go on? When will public servants become real servants?

* * *

In desperation, many of us must have often asked, "Lord, why do you allow injustice to happen to your people?" This echoes the biblical question: "Why do the good seem to suffer and the evil seem to prosper?" Up to now, the question still echoes, but the parable of the landowner gives us hope. While human justice seems to be distant and delayed, let us rest assured that divine justice will definitely come. God does not sleep. He is still in control.

* * *

With all the lying going around, please remind the children that it is still a sin to tell a lie! Please tell and retell to your children the message that lying is bad, and that to prevent others to tell the truth is also very bad.

* * *

Praise God there are still Filipinos who stand up for the truth and for truth itself. All we need are a few good men and women who risk life and career for the sake of truth. The sad reality is there are so many good men and women out there, but the lure of comfort, money, power and position of influence has made them blind, deaf and dumb.

* * *

When we face the Lord someday, and he will look at us straight in the eye, will we be able to look at Him and say: "Lord, I have done my very best to the best of my ability. I have not been a source of hurt to my brothers and sisters"? In humility, relying on God's mercy, may we all meet our Creator someday without regrets, because we have really done our very best.

* * *

Please be reminded of the "Driver's Prayer" which goes this way: "Lord, grant me a steady hand and a watchful eye, that no one may be hurt as I pass by." A beautiful prayer for all of us, as we go through life. But somehow I get the feeling that some people deliberately hurt others so that they can pass by.

* * *

I was in Taiwan recently for a meeting of our Divine Word Missionaries from the Asia-Pacific Zone. It was a wonderful experience to hear the different works being done by our confreres in different apostolates, especially those in difficult situations. The work may be small and insignificant compared to the magnitude of the political, socio-economic and religious problems around us. But, slowly and surely, the light of the Gospel is out there. May we all continue to be "salt of the earth" and "light of the world" wherever we are, whatever we do. The only assurance is that God is with us and that goodness will triumph in the end.

* * *

Inviting you to join the "Walk With God to Manaoag" on Oct. 8. It will start at 6 a.m. from the church of Urdaneta City. Yes, let us walk in thanksgiving for the blessings received through the intercession of the Blessed Mother, and in prayer to her for peace in our families and in our country so wounded by so much disunity and division.

* * *

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Do you carry a rosary with you? Many of us have cell phones, and we go back to get them when we forget them. Do you go back to get your rosary?

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, at the end of my life, may I not have poignant regrets that I hurt others as I passed by. Amen

Fissure in the AFP façade

THREE WEEKS AGO, I WROTE ABOUT CRACKS in the AFP façade, citing reports of military units said to hold anti-government sentiments being broken up or purged, and their heavy armaments and transport vehicles recalled. This was followed by the Southern Command (Southcom) fiasco, which saw last-minute changes made for reasons that up to now have not been revealed to the public, although the changes involved the most important unified command of the Armed Forces. One would think that, in the spirit of transparency and clarity, our people were entitled to some kind of explanation for the sudden turn of events which subjected the Armed Forces to embarrassment and even humiliation. For instance, what is it about Lt. Gen. Samuel B. Bagasin that made him eligible for promotion to three stars as The Deputy Chief of Staff (TDCS) AFP, but not for the command of Southcom, considering that earlier he was commander of the 4th Infantry Division, a key unit of Southcom? I realize the AFP Chief of Staff, Gen. Generoso Senga, will not be inclined to make any response—he probably is not too happy about the whole thing himself—but it is essential for our people to realize that important matters are being kept from them for reasons only known to a few. Through all these incidents, the AFP spokesman was quoted as saying that the Armed Forces' chain of command remained intact and functioning.

Last Wednesday, a fissure developed in the AFP façade and in the chain of command when Brig. Gen. Francisco Gudani, the assistant superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy, and Lt. Col. Alexander Balutan, the assistant commandant of cadets also at the PMA, came forward to testify in a Senate hearing. Webster's dictionary defines a "fissure" as "a crack of considerable length and depth; a separation or disagreement in thought or viewpoint." For the first time in the history of the AFP, a general along with a field grade officer, disobeyed specific written and verbal orders from the commander in chief not to appear and give testimony in a congressional hearing.

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

A lot has been said and written about Executive Order No. 464, which prohibits government officials, including military and police personnel, from appearing before Congress without presidential consent. Constitutional expert Fr. Joaquin Bernas and other legal luminaries have expressed consternation over the gag order and characterized the action as "one-woman rule." Other legal authorities say that EO 464, legal or illegal, cannot take effect until after 15 days from its publication in a newspaper or the Official Gazette. Which means that legally, Gudani and Balutan were not yet covered by EO 464 when they testified at the Senate.

What is getting them into trouble in the Armed Forces is their disobedience of verbal and written orders from the commander in chief, relayed through the AFP chief of staff and received in the wee hours of Wednesday morning.

In the Armed Forces of the Philippines, as in most other military organizations, when a general officer goes against the chain of command, it is a very serious matter which cannot be dismissed as the usual grumbling and dissatisfaction that one normally expects in any grouping. In the case of Gudani and Balutan, they both come from the Philippine Marines, the most disciplined and battle-tested unit in the AFP. Gudani is a member of PMA class 1973, while Balutan belongs to class 1983.

Perhaps, a little backgrounder will allow our readers to better appreciate the dilemma of Gudani and Balutan. During the elections in May 2004, Gudani was the commander of the 1st Marine Brigade and concurrent head of Joint Task Force "Ranao" covering Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte. Balutan was one of his battalion commanders. When Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano started sticking his dirty fingers into election matters in the Lanao provinces—although he was in charge of the Southern Tagalog and Bicol regions—Gudani started asking questions, perhaps, the wrong questions. This eventually led to his being yanked out of his command and he was ordered back to Manila by Navy chief Vice Adm. Ernesto de Leon. He was told to take in the beaches of Boracay or play a lot of golf. Contrary to news reports at that time, he was never officially relieved of his command. But to add insult to injury, the AFP under pressure, designated an Army officer, Colonel Firino as officer in charge (OIC) of Task Force "Ranao," effectively putting the Marines under an Army officer. Only someone who was ignorant of service sensibilities would make such a tactless arrangement. A few months later, Gudani and Balutan were officially transferred to the Philippine Military Academy.

I will not dwell on their testimonies at the Senate hearing. Let me mention however, one of the repercussions arising from their being charged with violation of the Articles of War.

The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association was scheduled to honor AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga and PNP Chief Arturo Lomibao with a testimonial dinner on Thursday, Oct. 6 at Camp Aguinaldo. It has been a tradition of the association to honor the men who hold the top positions in the AFP and PNP, regardless of the source of their commissions. Today, both posts are held by members of class 1972.

Tomorrow, the association's board of directors is holding an emergency meeting to decide whether to proceed with the affair or postpone it. Perhaps, such a gathering at this time would not be too conducive to the warm camaraderie that usually marks such events.

Gabby Barredo's 'weird' art

THERE'S A BRAIN SITTING ON MY COFFEE table. It glows an eerie blue in the darkness, its folds and wrinkles, two lobes bisected by a deep cleft, outlined by the faint light.

My family is positively creeped out by it.

It's a gift from artist Gabby Barredo, who hit upon the idea after a friend presented him with a plaster cast of a real human brain. But it would be difficult to explain what leaps and connections between the synapses of Barredo's own brain took place that led him to transform the anatomical model into a table-lamp crafted from light-blue acrylic. I myself am fascinated by it, though the hubby is more appreciative of the plug, which is covered in a plaster mold dotted with lots of tiny human faces.

"Weird" might be an appropriate description of the art of Gabby Barredo. "Creepy," too. "Surreal" comes to mind, as does "mind-blowing." Barredo himself says that his favorite description of his most recent and, perhaps, biggest installation work yet, entitled "Invisible," is a friend's comment that walking through it is "like you're dreaming and yet you know you're awake."

Whatever one might think or feel while in the midst of "Invisible," it's impossible to remain unmoved by or indifferent to it. The installation pieces, human figures and body casts juxtaposed against kinetic backgrounds crafted from a variety of materials, compel one's attention, invite fascination, and may even repel and repulse. Barredo, who spent the past two years conceiving of the pieces, crafting them and planning their spatial and conceptual relationships, says the verdicts he enjoys most are not those of art critics or curators but of "ordinary" folk who walk into his home in Parañaque and react from the gut, unafraid of being "wrong" or being thought of as naïve. "They are not afraid to be honest," he says.

* * *

TO THIS day, a little over a week before "Invisible" is unveiled at the Ayala Museum on Oct. 14, Barredo says he still isn't sure what final form "Invisible" will take. In his home, where the installation pieces have taken over his main living space, he has already determined the central arrangement but he doesn't know yet just where and how he will place the other pieces. "I will know only when I start installing the pieces," he says, nodding when reminded that the exhibit space on the museum's ground floor is much larger than his living room.

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

"Invisible" is so much more than just static pieces artfully arranged and ordered. Known for his kinetic sculpture crafted from odds and ends of machinery, old appliances and assorted junk, Barredo throws together a moving, liquid full-sensory experience that will combine—he promises—light, color, music, movement and meaning.

His body casts and human sculptures are made mostly from white fiberglass, against whose matte surfaces Barredo plans to project a kaleidoscope of colors. My favorite pieces, though, are body casts molded from re-formed chicken wire and tiny springs, almost weightless in appearance, as if they were made of smoke and shadow.

"They're molded from real people's bodies," Barredo says of the body casts, explaining that he carefully chooses his models, believing that "what the person is inside shows in the body." The female body casts are based on a single model, a young woman whom Barredo describes as "a beautiful person" who, despite a traumatic childhood and adolescence, remains unsullied by the corruption she endured.

* * *

BARREDO displays the human form in all sorts of configurations. Some have their heads and faces cleaved, revolving hologram discs of an eye, opening and closing, opening and closing, taking the place of the absent faces.

Female figures are eviscerated, a fetus, a plant, and other objects making statements about women's reproductive roles—or maybe not. One male figure crouches beneath a cage of sharp wires and blades, "reflecting my whole experience dealing with the art establishment," Barredo says dryly.

It might well be a relief for Barredo when the public is finally allowed to walk through and experience "Invisible." Two years ago, he narrates, Bea Zobel Jr. approached him and issued a challenge after she glimpsed some of his pieces. "She challenged me to do something really new, a work which would shock and break new ground." Naively, Barredo accepted the challenge and brushed off any offer of financial assistance. "I thought we were going to exhibit at the old Ayala Museum," he explains, "and I knew they had only a small exhibit space. How was I to know the new space would be so huge!" I can't but be excited to re-view "Invisible" as Barredo arranges it in its new setting. Will his art and imagination be confined by the limits of the new Ayala's generous spaces, or will it overflow even this wider expanse?

"Invisible" goes on view from Oct. 14-Nov. 6 at the Ayala Museum.

* * *

THE OTHER weekend, we had the great fortune to be invited to the blessing of Buon Giorno, a new Italian and Continental restaurant at the Cliff House complex in Tagaytay.

Buon Giorno is the latest addition to the complex which already houses a steak house and which is envisioned to serve Tagaytay's burgeoning population, including a small bed-and-breakfast.

Managed by experienced restaurateur Linda Floro, who is also one of the top food stylists in the country, Buon Giorno offers an extensive menu of both reliable favorites and innovative creations. For good food complemented by both fine wine and excellent views of Taal Lake, Buon Giorno is hard to beat. I would imagine it would soon become a favorite destination of lovers—and not just of fine food. Looking for the ideal site for a proposal? I propose a dinner at Buon Giorno. Positive results guaranteed.

Separation of powers

THOUGH I AM NOT A LAWYER, I AM, AS A CITIZEN and as a sociologist, interested in the exercise of state power in a republican system like ours. It seems to me that the crisis of the presidency, given the defensive responses of its current occupant, will increasingly put the doctrine of separation of powers to a test.

Executive Order No. 464, which bars Cabinet officials, military officers and government executives from testifying at congressional inquiries without presidential approval, has been interpreted as an unwarranted restriction of the congressional power of legislation. The constitutionality of this EO will surely be challenged in the Supreme Court. The Court still has to decide on another motion seeking the invalidation of the vote recently taken by the House of Representatives on the impeachment complaints against Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. A decision giving due course to the motion could be interpreted as judicial meddling in the affairs of a co-equal branch of government. Also pending before the Court is a challenge to the constitutionality of the EVAT law, an act of Congress approved by the executive. How long can the Court suspend its implementation without impairing the presumption of constitutionality of legislative enactments?

There have been other instances. The one that quickly comes to mind is the decision of the Supreme Court in 2001 to administer the presidential oath of office to then Vice President Arroyo, even before there had been an actual determination of the existence of a vacancy in the Office of the President. The lawyers of ousted President Joseph Estrada saw this as an unjustified interference in an ongoing political process. The issue came to a head when Ms Arroyo's assumption of the presidency was subsequently challenged before the same tribunal. In two separate decisions, the Supreme Court upheld the presidency of Ms Arroyo.

My impression is that the principle of separation of powers may not be as simple as it seems, and that it is heir to many ambivalences. In what could be his last major lecture (Supreme Court Centenary Lecture Series), the late Chief Justice Enrique M. Fernando examined this question and the specific contributions of Justice George Malcolm and Justice Jose Laurel to its clarification. The citations here are taken from that lecture.

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

Justice Malcolm wrote: "[U]nder our system of government, each of the three departments is distinct and not directly subject to the control of another department....Each department may, nevertheless, indirectly restrain the others."

The principle provides not only the separation, but the balancing and checking of powers. The three branches are separate from one another, and in this autonomy lies precisely their power to check one another. There is no question, therefore, that each of the three departments "may indirectly restrain the others." But this can be done only within a department's own sphere.

Malcolm cites the opinion of Judge Cooley in a US case: "The Legislature cannot dictate to the courts what their judgments shall be, or set aside or alter such judgments after they have been rendered. If it could, constitutional liberty would cease to exist; and if the Legislature could in like manner override executive action also, the government would only become a despotism under popular forms. On the other hand, it would be readily conceded that no court can compel the Legislature to make or to refrain from making laws, or to meet or adjourn at its command, or to take any action whatsoever, though the duty to take it be made ever so clear by the constitution or the laws. In these cases, the exemption of one department from the control of the other is not only implied in the framework of government, but is indispensably necessary if any useful apportionment of power is to exist..."

In the natural course of events, the exercise of these powers by the key branches of government is bound to pose problems of jurisdiction. There are bound to be charges of encroachment into another's territory, and abuse of power. But that is the reason, wrote Justice Laurel, why our Constitution expressly vests in the judiciary the mandate to settle conflicting claims of authority.

Justice Laurel's words could have been written for today's controversies: "The Constitution is a definition of the powers of government. Who is to determine the nature, scope and extent of such powers? The Constitution itself has provided for the instrumentality of the judiciary as the rational way. And when the judiciary mediates to allocate constitutional boundaries, it does not assert any superiority over the other departments; it does not in reality nullify or invalidate an act of the legislature, but only asserts the solemn and sacred obligation assigned to it by the Constitution to determine conflicting claims of authority under the Constitution and to establish for the parties in an actual controversy the rights which that instrument secures and guarantees to them."

In the same lecture, from which I have liberally quoted, Chief Justice Fernando discussed the prerequisites for the exercise of the power of judicial review. These are valuable notes for those who must perform that task in these times of political disquiet. My own interest is in the social conditions that make it possible, or difficult, for the public to continue believing in the wisdom and impartiality of the courts. At no other time has it become more critical for our justices to demonstrate that they can stand above the political fray.

* * *

Comments to public.lives@gmail.com

Rockin' through life

LAST MONTH, I WAS IN LINE FOR PHOTOCOPYING AT the UP main library's Filipiniana section. I was dressed in one of my wilder ensembles—the kind that compels close friends to ask if I left my shirt home. There I was, concocting a scene where I sadly yet firmly refuse Prince William's hand in marriage ("No Will, my heart belongs to Johnny Depp"), when a voice cut through my fantasies.

"Aba, ang landi ng suot!"

REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE

Patricia Evangelista

I looked up and saw the photocopying lady staring at the patch of bare skin at my midriff. I grinned sheepishly, handed over my book, and slunk off to the nearest seat facing away. Miscalculation.

"Aba, pati likod, kitang-kita!"

I felt the same way "American Idol" fans probably do before Simon talks. Then the pursed lips flashed into a thousand-megawatt smile.

"Ay, may K ka naman pala!" Then she leaned over the edge of the photocopier. *"May mga nagsusuot ng ganyan dito—walang K!"*

* * *

"So," she asked me in her well-articulated English, "What do you think of me?"

"I think you're outspoken," I said.

She nodded. "Yes, yes, I am." She seemed to be expecting more.

The wall beside her machine was papered with photocopies of "Chicken Soup for the Soul," feminist readings and newspaper articles.

"And well-read," I added. She nodded again.

One article had a place of honor in the middle: a newspaper article with the bold headline, "Yes, sex is good for your health." Lines were highlighted with a bright yellow marker. "Studies show that arousal and an active sex life lead to a longer life."

"And, you're, ah, not particularly conservative?"

* * *

Remedios Ferranco took a secretarial course when she was a teenager and graduated second in class. She was an AB English freshman in the University of the Philippines-Manila when she got married. In the next seven years, she gave birth to four children, and her husband never recovered from alcoholism.

It is her frustration that made her so determined to send her children to school. Her eldest is a banking and finance undergrad; the second is a nurse and director of nursing services in an LA hospital. Another daughter is a broadcast communications graduate from UP. The fourth studied environmental planning until she emigrated to the United States with her architect husband.

Her daughter, she said gleefully, would order her to swipe a credit card. It's the same credit card that she uses when she buys things like a P3,800-pair of shoes ("The soles are treated."), Clinique lipstick ("That's the only makeup I use now.") and Vitamin E cream ("For my whole body.")

* * *

Lola Remy told me to wait while she rummaged through her desk. She returned brandishing a plate printed with a picture of the King himself.

On her wall was an Elvis Presley calendar. One after another, she pulled out huge, hardbound books devoted to the life and times of the King of Rock, along with an official Presley appointment book.

On her 61st birthday a few days ago, she gave away part of her 40-book Elvis collection. She intends to donate most of them to the University Library.

"I'm proud that I'm an Elvis fan. And I'm not just an ordinary Elvis fan. I was the two-term president of the Elvis Presley Fan Club," she said.

* * *

When she was in her 30s, Lola Remy worked for the 1972 Constitutional Convention. She took the test and was suddenly head of a pool of 35 typists and 15 proofreaders.

There was this one girl who was recommended by the chair of the personnel committee. It was the 35th time the girl was to take the typing test—it appeared that she was a protégé of one of the delegates. The delegate's secretary called Lola Remy and asked if it was possible for the girl to take the test in the protégé's suite.

Lola Remy's answer was indignant. "Was there ever an instance that the Civil Service Examination was administered at home?"

Days later, the delegate sent her a present. "It wasn't my birthday, and it wasn't Christmas. I sent it back."

The personnel committee called her to a meeting and said that they were going to give her a promotion. The typing pool, they said, was the only department without a backlog.

"If that's the case," she answered, "I cannot accept your promotion. I can only accept it if my members are given the corresponding increase." They didn't.

There was a fierce pride in her voice as she told the story. *"Ang ganda ng pakiramdam ng hindi nabibili. Pag nadadaanan ko na sila sa* hallway, *feeling ko kaya ko sila duraan* (It feels good when you stand your ground and refuse to sell your principles. If you get to pass them by in the hallway, I had that feeling I could spit on them)."

* * *

Throughout our interview, students would come up to the machine with books to be photocopied. Lola Remy would wave them off with the dignity of an Elizabeth Taylor dealing graciously with peons.

"Excuse me, I'm having an interview. Please take a seat."

* * *

Lola Remy's secretarial career is dotted with names that now belong to the pages of history books, the halls of the academe and government podiums. She worked for the fearless Fr. Pacifico Ortiz (who announced in the Constitutional Convention: "Although I am just a small voice in the wilderness, my vote is still no."). She listened to his discussions with Luis Taruc. She presented her 2nd Place Award in the national speed-typing competition to Gonzalo Hurado, worked for Diosdado Macapagal ("Yes, I have an ID to that effect."). And claimed that she was a favorite of Winnie Monsod.

In spite of her sternness, Lola Remy loves the students. "I always make the students feel special. I use colored bond paper; it's more expensive but I give it to you. I make sure I put a quotation along with your papers. I love the University so much."

"I don't have to work anymore. I have three insurance plans, my casket is bought and paid for, and I'm saving for my dress. But I love to work—it's my only reason to dress up!"

* * *

At one point in her career, her father fell ill. Lola Remy quit her job and went into sales. She was the No. 4 Tupperware retailer in the country.

"I'm surprised you weren't No. 1," I said.

"So am I," she replied.

* * *

There are five men in Lola Remy's life. The first is God, the second her father, and the third Elvis Presley. Her husband and son come fourth and fifth.

"I'm not mediocre," Lola Remy said.

In the words of the King of Rock: "I don't sound like nobody."

* * *

Send comments to pat.evangelista@gmail.com

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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Running on biofuels (2)

RECORD FUEL PRICES ARE RESULTING IN LOWER CONSUMPTION OF petroleum products in the country. With the retail price of unleaded gasoline rising by 77 percent and that of diesel by 114 percent from September 2003 to September 2005, many motorists are cutting down on the use of these two types of fossil fuel.

Instead of driving their cars, a number of motorists are using motorcycles or are taking public modes of transportation like the jeepney, bus and electric-powered train (if one is in Metro Manila). Others would rather walk or use a bicycle for short distances.

Still others are shifting from gasoline or diesel to cocodiesel or ethanol—the two kinds of biofuel that the government is promoting.

Government is pushing for the use of cocodiesel and ethanol mainly for economic reasons. The country could save P14 billion a year from fuel efficiency if all vehicles with diesel engines use cocodiesel, according to the Department of Energy. Savings from the use of a five-percent blend of ethanol by gasoline-powered vehicles are estimated at P7 billion a year.

Although using biofuels makes economic sense, some motorists are reluctant to try them for fear of destroying the engines of their vehicles. Educating motorists on the benefits of biofuels can make them change their minds.

Availability of the alternative fuels is another issue that the government and the oil companies must address. Biofuels are being sold by small oil firms whose network of stations does not cover many parts of the country.

Motorists raise questions of safety and availability

By Gerry Lirio

ILLUSTRATION AND PAGE DESIGN BY ANTHONY MISTADES

ARE THEY SAFE? ARE THEY AVAILABLE? More than anything else, these two questions have bothered motorists the most on the government-led drive to promote the use of alternative fuels, particularly ethanol and coco-biodiesel.

The Department of Energy (DOE), along with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the United States Department of Energy (US DOE), has endorsed the use of coco-biodiesel for diesel engines and ethanol for gas engines in the hope of promoting clean air and reducing dependency on imported fuel.

The concerns of motorists on the safety and availability of biofuels were most evident in public consultations sponsored by the Clean City Program, a joint project of the three agencies. The consultations were held in Marikina, Baguio and Davao cities—three pilot areas of the program.

Besides cocodiesel and ethanol, the government and the two US agencies are promoting compressed natural gas (CNG), otherwise known as Malampaya gas, and autogas or liquefied petroleum gas. All four are alternative fuels, but only cocodiesel and ethanol are renewable.

There is no doubt that they are all less hazardous to the environment than gasoline and diesel, and would thus reduce the $400 million spent by the government on health problems spawned by air pollution.

Biodiesel is an international name for methyl ester when used as diesel fuel or enhancer. Coconut oil, which is abundant in the country, is the raw material for the additive called cocomethyl ester (CME). CME has been approved as an enhancer by several international agencies, among them the American Society for Testing Materials, European Standards, and the Philippine National Standards.

Ethanol is a high-octane fuel produced by the fermentation of sugar from crops such as sugar cane, corn and wheat. It is a clear, colorless liquid with an agreeable odor.

Daniel Moore, chief of the USAID Office of Energy and Environment, says ethanol and cocodiesel, which have gained popularity and acceptance in the Western world, are safe for vehicles in the Philippines.

Still, questions about the safety and availability of alternative fuels raised a level of concern that is peculiar to a Third World country like the Philippines where there are at least 3.3 million licensed drivers.

Losing one's savings

For instance, a former overseas Filipino worker (OFW), who bought a number of Toyota FX units, is open to using alternative fuels, but fears losing his investments drawn out of his savings from years of working in the Middle East.

And there is this most-frequently asked question by public utility drivers: Can their decades-old jeepney run on coco-biodiesel? Foreign and local experts say yes.

To date, the DOE has endorsed the commercial sale of gasoline with 10-percent ethanol. Beyond that requires a modification of diesel and gas engines.

Based on the results of tests conducted by the DOE, USAID and US DOE, if you blend 10 percent of your full tank with ethanol, you reduce carbon monoxide emission better than other reformulated gasoline blend by as much as 25 percent. As an octane enhancer, ethanol can cut emission of cancer-causing benzene and butadiene by more than 50 percent.

Before they agreed to sell ethanol, Seaoil executives tried it using their own cars. Allan Espino, business development manager, said the ethanol blend improved his car's mileage. The blend made the car lighter to drive and removed the unwanted noise.

Boy Vargas, national president of the Alliance of Transport Operators and Drivers Association of the Philippines, has been using cocodiesel to run his 1999 Isuzu Hilander since 2001. His vehicle got a 2.5-percent grade in its last emission test. He has used 100-percent biodiesel on many occasions, especially during his out-of-town trips.

More tests

Government and private experts will conduct more tests in Marikina, Makati, Baguio and Davao cities involving more participants next month.

There are two major suppliers of coco-biodiesel in the Philippines—Chemrez and Senbel. Chemrez is bigger while Senbel is older, having pioneered cocodiesel production when the government first launched the program in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Supply not a problem

As far as the two companies are concerned, supply is not a problem. Dean Lao Jr., Chemrez's operations manager, said the firm had embarked on the construction of a P650-million plant to keep up with the expected upsurge in demand. The plant, which has a capacity of 60 million liters a year, is expected to be operational by March 2006.

But despite the abundance of supply, availability is a major concern.

The country has an average oil consumption of 350,000 barrels a day, half of which is used by land transport.

Shell and Caltex

Energy Secretary Raphael Lotilla said the government expected the Big Three to follow suit. How soon? Nobody knows.

But it will be the biggest breakthrough in the government campaign if and when Petron, Shell and Caltex finally decide to sell pre-blended biodiesel and ethanol. Petron and Shell each account for 35 percent of the market. The combined market share of Seaoil, Flying V, USA88 and the other small players is only 10 percent. Caltex has the rest.

Chemrez and Senbel each have at least 50 retail outlets nationwide. Flying V has 125 stations nationwide. Seaoil has 105, also nationwide.

The government-owned Petron has begun to sell biodiesel in retail packs, but this poses some inconvenience to motorists. All the minor players sell pre-blended fuels.

Surge in sales

So far, only the minor petroleum companies sell biodiesel and ethanol. Francis Glenn Yu, Seaoil president, said his company has experienced a 33-percent increase in sales since it carried the alternative fuels the past months.

Lotilla and Moore said cocodiesel consumption would neither dislodge nor upset other coco-based industries. On the contrary, it has revitalized the industry because of the newfound market. It will give the country's 3.6 million farmers additional income.

But are all biodiesels the same? No, because the behavior of their molecular profiles differs. Called the poor man's oil, diesel is cheaper in the Philippines as a result of the socialized pricing scheme when oil was still a regulated industry. There was suspicion that oil companies managed to get by with a reduction in the use of additives, which could otherwise improve emission standards.

Malampaya gas can supply only Luzon, but not the Visayas and Mindanao.

Imported

Unknown to many, the ethanol sold locally is still imported. Yu said Seaoil would need at least 18 months to build an ethanol plant. The firm will start building one as soon as the government enacts into law mandating the use of ethanol. But whether local or imported, ethanol attracts water, which is harmful to engines. And in this flood-prone country, poor storage and careless refill may lead to an engine overhaul.

Another question posed by another OFW at the Marikina forum is now the subject of a test by DOE experts. The OFW, who had worked in Canada, opined that biodiesel was not suitable in relatively cool parts of the country like Baguio because it might coagulate. This has raised another concern: How long can biodiesel be stored? But this is more a problem for producers and distributors, not for jeepney drivers, who get frequent refills. Then of course, in the Philippines, how low can the temperature get?

Public information

Next month, the three agencies will formally launch "Fuels for Life," a project of the Clean City program to get the attention of the public using personalities in government, civil society, business and entertainment as major endorsers of alternative fuels. The project will be launched consecutively in Baguio, Davao and Metro Manila.

Local officials in Marikina, Baguio and Davao have also issued memoranda ordering their executives to use either ethanol or biodiesel in government vehicles and even in privately owned cars in compliance with an executive order signed by President Macapagal Arroyo two months ago. There are 29,619 diesel-run government vehicles, including those owned by local government units.

For the people behind the "Fuels for Life" project, the question of safety can be resolved through an information drive. Political will can address the concerns on availability.

(Lirio is the head of the Inquirer I-Team.)

Prices and availability of alternative fuels

Fuel	Price	Supplier	Station
CME 100 percent	P125/liter	Flying V	All Flying V stations
CME 1 percent (pre-blend)	P32/liter	Flying V	All Flying V stations
CME	Pail/Drum: P65/liter Bottle: P125/liter	Chemrez	All Flying V stations
CME	P85/liter	Senbel	
E10	P35.15 pump price	Flying V	Flying V Markina, E. Rodriguez
Bioexceed	P135/liter P30—200 ml	Seaoil	All Seaoil stations

Our energy options

By Peter Anthony Abaya

WHILE WE AT THE DEPARTMENT of Energy fret about the quality of energy that the country can produce, we equally worry about the quantity. Can we produce enough to satisfy our country's present and future needs?

By 2035, the world will use twice the energy being used today. At the same time, demand for oil will jump from the current 87 million to as much as 140 million barrels a day. Use of natural gas will climb by 120 percent, and that of coal by 60 percent. By 2020, demand for electricity is estimated to be 70 percent higher than today. Yet, more than 1.5 billion people or one-fourth of the world's population have no access to electricity or fuel. The demand for energy is a certainty. Where to get that energy is the challenge we all face.

Just to keep up with the projected demand, oil-producing states will need to discover, produce, refine and bring to market 140 million barrels of oil per day, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, without fail. They not only have to build up their current peak production to such astounding levels. They must also maintain it. Most importantly, they, too, must spend for it (perhaps to the tune of $3 trillion). Now, let's try repeating the same exercise for coal and natural gas, day after day, year after year, without fail.

Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries have declared that they have 45 years' worth of proven reserves with everything held constant. But change is the norm on the global oil market. With dwindling supply and ever-increasing demand, along with geopolitics, we should expect the continued volatility of the prices of imported oil. This is not good for a country that imports pretty much all of its oil.

Given the above scenario, what viable options do we have in the Philippines? Here is a list of our conventional and renewable energy options, along with some personal comments. From this, we hope, will come our sustainable and affordable energies of the future.

1. *Oil.* At present prices, we can't live with it, and we can't live without it. Prices are up by 100 percent in the past 18 months, 650 percent in the last six years.

2. *Nuclear power.* We have a mothballed nuclear power plant in Bataan.

3. *Malampaya natural gas.* The fuel of choice. An estimated 4.7 trillion cubic feet is being tapped. Good enough to fuel the transport and power sectors for decades to come. Unlike oil, it is a lot more difficult to transport and store. CNG (or compressed natural gas) buses will begin using natural gas within the year. Dozens of explorations across the country in search of the next Malampaya are going on. More infrastructure projects are in the pipeline to expand use of natural gas in the country.

4. *Liquefied natural gas.* Cheaper form of natural gas but it will have to be imported. Big investments in terminals will be required. Project is in the works.

5. *Coal.* It's abundant, cheap and unclean. Its quality can be improved. We will remain dependent on it for decades especially for power. The DOE is working on a project that will transform coal to ultra-clean transport fuels.

6. *Cocodiesel.* Not so long ago, we were one of the world's leading producers of coconut. Improves mileage efficiency by 17 to 32 percent. Drastic reduction in emissions (particulate matter).

7. *Ethanol.* Not so long ago, we too, were one of the leading exporters of sugar. Increases octane and improves efficiency.

8. *LPG.* Filling stations are also expected to open within the year. Liquified petroleum gas is expected to be cheaper by 20 percent than conventional fuels.

9. *Geothermal energy.* We are the world's largest producer of geothermal energy on a per capita basis.

10. *Solar energy.* The amount of solar energy in the Philippines in one day can fuel our economy for 20 years.

11. *Hydro power.* Of the amount of rainfall that falls on Philippine soil every year, less than 5 percent is put to good use (i.e. power).

12. *Ocean power.* The Philippine coastline is reported to be longer than that of the United States. There is proven potential underneath our waves. Studies are on-going at the DOE.

13. *Wind power.* I quote the World Watch Institute in its State of the World report saying, "During the past 15-20 years, wind energy technology has evolved to the point where it competes with most conventional forms of power generation. In many instances, wind is now the cheapest option on a per-kilowatt basis." The country has 76,000 (megawatts) MW of wind potential. We have more than 7,000 MW of immediately developable potential. The very first grid-connected wind power project in Southeast Asia is now operational in Ilocos Norte. We have launched the first wind contracting round for 10 sites involving 245 MW. Another 18 sites are being evaluated.

14. *Hydrogen.* It is the most abundant element in the universe and when you get it in its purest form it is the "ideal fuel." The key is getting it on its own. Hydrogen is highly reactive that's why it's almost always in hybrid form. And the most famous hydrogen compound is water. If we can separate hydrogen from water economically, then we shall have limitless energy that does not pollute. The quest goes on.

(This is a shortened version of the article that Abaya, an undersecretary of the Department of Energy, submitted to Talk of the Town.)

INQUIRER Mindanao
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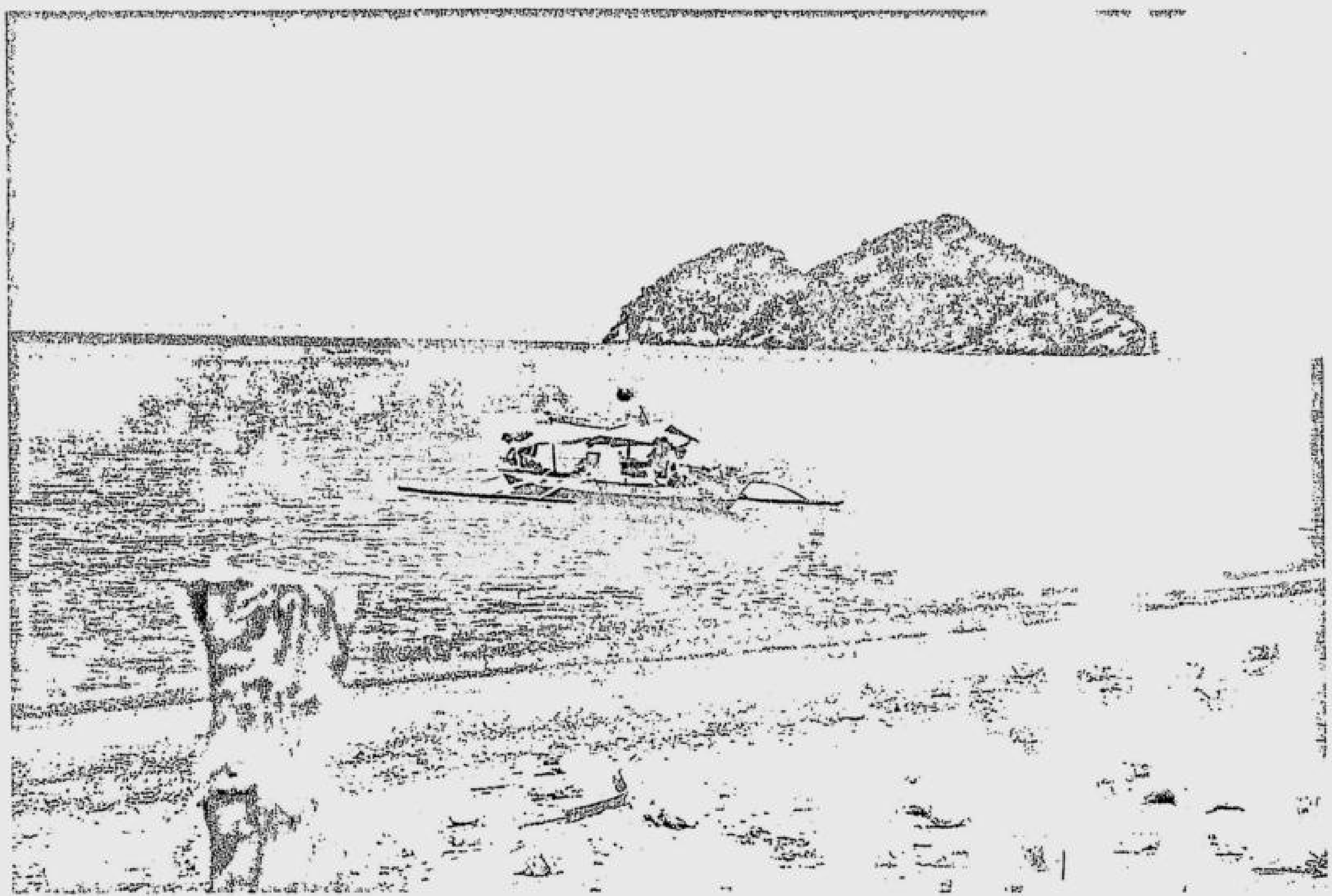
Editor **Jun Bandayrel**
Bureau Chief **Nico A. Alconaba**

Southern coastal town pushes tourism

By Dennis Jay Santos
Governor Generoso,
Davao Oriental

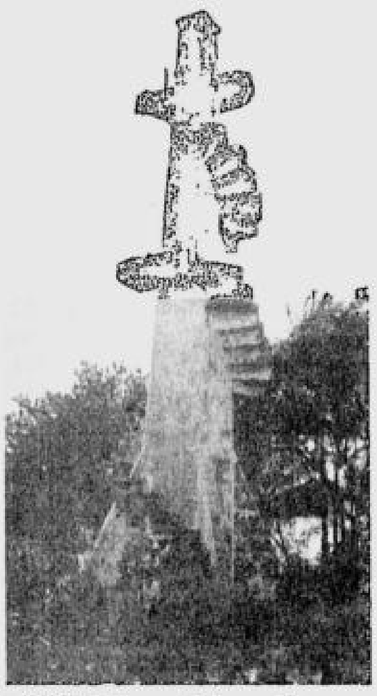
THE FADING SUN casts a resplendent glow over a group of fishermen scouring the vast Davao Gulf and Celebes Sea. Just as the lighthouse begins to flash its light, some fishermen start rowing their *bancas* (outrigger boats) to shore and head for home. Other fishermen begin their night shift, working until the wee hours of the morning.

Tired from the day's work, husbands and young men begin to gather in a small hut to relax, accompanied by some drinks. They usually talk about fishing, but soon, delve into other mundane topics that elicit laughter and sometimes lead to dancing and singing. Their wives and sometimes young girls would join briefly to listen or chat with them and the gathering becomes more jubilant. Children huddle in a corner and repeat tales from the sea, ranging from mermaids, giant octopuses, sharks, whales, a village at the bottom of the ocean and other stories recounted by their grandparents.



THE DAVAO Gulf provides a rich resource for the residents of Governor Generoso town in Davao Oriental.

PHOTOS BY DENNIS JAY SANTOS



THIS lighthouse helps guide seafarers and fishermen in the Davao Gulf.

These are some of the scenes in Governor Generoso, formerly known as Sigaboy, a coastal town in Davao Oriental, less than 200 kilometers from Davao City and located at the southernmost tip of Mindanao.

The town is named after Governor Sebastian Generoso who headed the province from 1925 to 1937.

The town is home to about 44,000 people from different ethnic origins, who are drawn to the fishing life.

SCHOOL girls enjoy the sunshine in Governor Generoso.

Ecological wonder

Governor Generoso boasts of pristine white sand in Cape San Agustin; the Cagamisan or Tambobong falls; a 16,000-hectare pigmy forest; a centuries-old rock formation believed to be where the 15th century missionary priest from Spain Fr. Francis Xavier had his first Mass; and several mountains that trekkers could climb.

"The people themselves are aware of the richness of this place," said tourism officer Reden Bersaldo.

"It's a beautiful place," he said, adding that the residents have a lot of work to do in their bid for tourism growth.

But while living in a land with rich resources, majority of the families here are poor.

Alberto Cadiena Jr., a government employee, said some 65 percent of the population are living below poverty line.

Mayor Jerry dela Cerna knows they could have been progressive if they had only opened their town to logging and chromite mining.

But the mayor, who is a former priest, said opening their doors to such industries would only mean ecological and environmental degradation.

"Mining is not an option," Dela Cerna said.

"Although encouraged by a national government policy, it has done no good at all and no developments were seen in the area," he said.

Dela Cerna said the town "has wide mountains, beautiful climate and good water that we just have to protect and harness for our sustainability."

He said they are promoting "agri-tourism" by putting a high premium on environmental protection and coastal management.

Participation

Governor Generoso was third place last year in the Toolkit Citizen Participation Award, given by a Netherlands-based body that recognizes governments promoting citizens' participation in decision making. South Africa's Nelson Mandela got the first prize.

They won the award because of the municipal ordinance that introduced a 15-kilometer ban on commercial fishing in the municipal waters and the use of the "*payao*," a fish aggregate device made of local materials as one of the alternative fishing methods.

"Protecting the environment and enhancing productivity really needs the cooperation of the community," Dela Cerna said.

Achieving sustainability and improving the living condition of the community needs participation from the people themselves.

With such practice, the whole community benefits from the concerted effort of all.

Dela Cerna said the community now has a greater appreciation of social justice, saying that the fishermen do not have to outdo each other such as jacking up the prices of their fish products to get ahead.

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In **medicine**, it allows doctors to actually see the heart working and to see if there is a problem. Sometimes, the heart muscle is very weakened, but unless the weakening leads to extra sounds, the stethoscope may not be able to pick it up.

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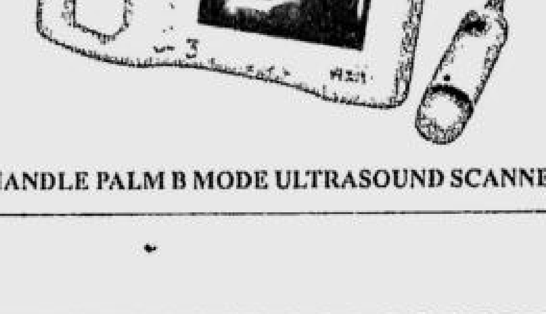

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125 LGUs violate waste handling law

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—EXCEPT FOR FOUR towns with sanitary landfills and two towns with material recovery facilities (MRF), the rest of the 129 local governments in Central Luzon are violating the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act (Republic Act No. 9003) that they should be implementing.

At least 100 towns and cities still maintain open dumps that the law bans, according to a September survey conducted by the regional Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

RA 9003 is one of the laws enacted during the first term of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

It required the reduction, reuse and recycling of wastes from households, commercial establishments, industries and agriculture. It also required the separation of biodegradable, non-biodegradable and hazardous wastes.

Only Balanga City and Mariveles in Bataan; Sta. Ignacia in Tarlac; Balagtas, Bocaue, Obando and the cities of San Jose del Monte and Malolos in Bulacan; City of San Fernando in Pampanga; and Gapan and San Jose cities in Nueva Ecija, have so far converted their waste disposal sites into partially controlled dumps that the law would also ban early next year.

Only Moncada in Tarlac and Magalang in Pampanga have operational controlled dumps that would be phased out by 2006.

The areas with access to a sanitary landfill primarily built and operated by a German company for the Clark Special Economic Zone are Bamban, Capas, Concepcion and Tarlac City in Tarlac, which hosts the modern facility.

San Clemente, also in Tarlac, and San Leonardo in Nueva Ecija were the only towns reported to have MRF.

The rest either do not have a centralized dumping area or use the dumpsites of nearby towns and cities, the report said.

At least seven areas assessed by the Philippine Bar Association to have low compliance with the law have started steps in improving their waste management programs, EMB reports said.

These are Cabanatuan City in Nueva Ecija; City of San Fernando and Apalit in Pampanga; Obando and Meycauayan in Bulacan; and Balanga City and Mariveles in Bataan.

Lormelyn Claudio, EMB regional director, said areas with "good practices" in the enforcement of ordinances on waste segregation and proper garbage disposal are San Jose del Monte in Bulacan; Gerona, Sta. Ignacia and Moncada in Tarlac; City of San Fernando in Pampanga; Mariveles in Bataan; and San Antonio in Zambales. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Death toll in diarrhea outbreak in Catanduanes rises to 13; cases increase

By Joanna Los Baños
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LEGAZPI CITY—THIRTEEN PERsons have died from diarrhea in four towns of Catanduanes, according to the Department of Health's Center for Health and Development in Bicol.

In a report faxed to the INQUIRER yesterday, six have died in San Andres town, four in Virac, two in Baras and one in Caramoran.

It said that 388 cases of diarrhea were reported in San Andres (210), Virac (141), Baras (13), Pandan (12), Bato (5), Viga (4) and Caramoran (3).

At least 34 new diarrhea cases were reported from Sept. 29 noon to Sept. 30 noon, the report added.

The Eastern Bicol Medical Center has new 16 diarrhea cases; Juan M. Alberto District Hospital, six cases; Baras Medicare Hospital, five cases; Caramoran Municipal Hospital and Pandan District Hospital both with three cases, and Bato Maternity and Children Hospital, one case.

Dr. Virgilio S. Ludovice Jr., chief of Health Operations Division of the Center for Health and Development in Bicol said that the DOH Regional Laboratory found two of the four specimens it tested from diarrhea patients in Barangay Cabcab, San Andres positive of vibrio cholera, a bacterial infection.

San Andres was declared with cholera outbreak, Ludovice said.

Tests have to be made in areas where cases of diarrhea were reported and were suspected caused by cholera.

But laboratory tests were ongoing, he said.

In Naga City, Catanduanes Gov. Leandro Verceles said he was pushing for the declaration of a state of calamity in his province.

He said the diarrhea outbreak could be better controlled and managed if a state of calamity was declared throughout Catanduanes.

He said the DOH in Bicol has recommended the declaration of a state of calamity to the provincial government to effectively manage the health situation. But he said the provincial board has rejected the request.

Reached by phone, Vice Gov. Vincent Villaluna said the board was not opposed to the request but that they should first explore all means.

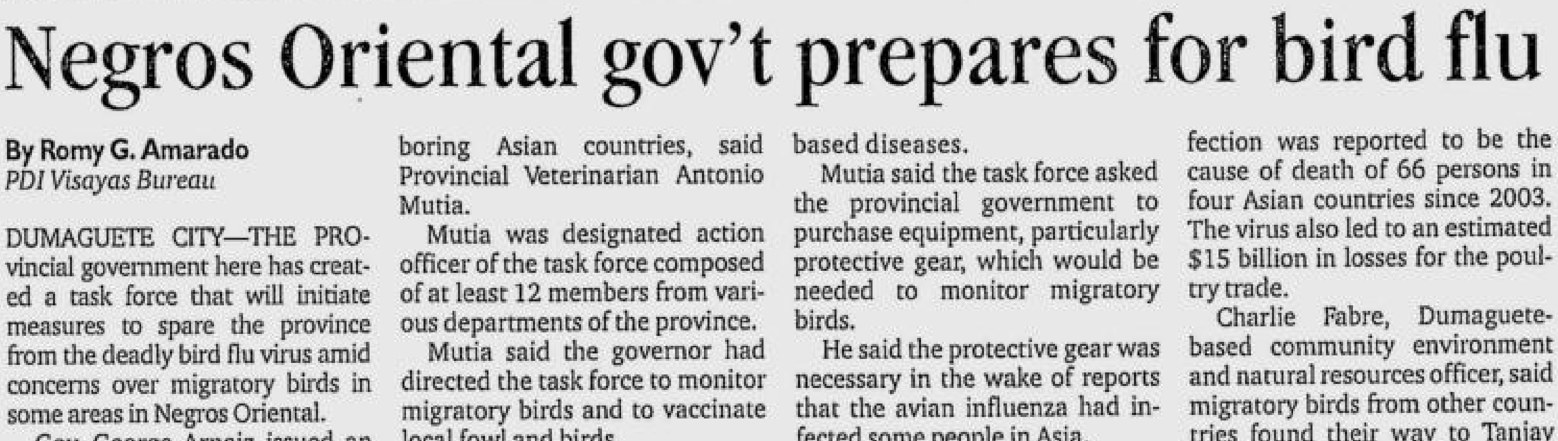
"It is not yet that urgent to declare the province under a state of calamity," he said. Only San Andres town was declared in a state of calamity, he added.

But San Andres Mayor Aly Romano said in an interview with the INQUIRER that Caramoran, San Miguel and Baras have also been declared under state of calamity.

The provincial government has released P1 million to buy medicines and medical supplies, Verceles said.

Verceles said the diarrhea outbreak has been reported to the media earlier than the provincial government.

The provincial government started acting on Sept. 12 because no official communication was relayed to them by the Juan M. Alberto Memorial Hospital where the patients were confined. *With a report from Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*



LILY POND
A relaxing view of a lily pond in Bantayan, Cebu.
YVETTE LEE/CONTRIBUTOR

Negros Oriental gov't prepares for bird flu

By Romy G. Amarado
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—THE PROvincial government here has created a task force that will initiate measures to spare the province from the deadly bird flu virus amid concerns over migratory birds in some areas in Negros Oriental.

Gov. George Arnaiz issued an executive order creating the task force in the wake of reports of the upsurge of bird flu cases in neighboring Asian countries, said Provincial Veterinarian Antonio Mutia.

Mutia was designated action officer of the task force composed of at least 12 members from various departments of the province.

Mutia said the governor had directed the task force to monitor migratory birds and to vaccinate local fowl and birds.

The public was also asked to report the presence of migratory birds and of any poultry-based diseases.

Mutia said the task force asked the provincial government to purchase equipment, particularly protective gear, which would be needed to monitor migratory birds.

He said the protective gear was necessary in the wake of reports that the avian influenza had infected some people in Asia.

Avian influenza is an infectious disease of birds. Although it only affected birds, human bird flu infection was reported to be the cause of death of 66 persons in four Asian countries since 2003. The virus also led to an estimated $15 billion in losses for the poultry trade.

Charlie Fabre, Dumaguete-based community environment and natural resources officer, said migratory birds from other countries found their way to Tanjay and Bais cities. He, however, was not certain where these birds came from.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SURIGAO FORCE
An overwhelming majority of elected officials of Surigao del Sur have pledged their support for President Arroyo, showing up at a courtesy call in Malacañang as a gesture of their commitment. Among the officials who paid the courtesy call were Rep. Prospero Pichay Jr., Rep. Glenda Ecleo, Vice Gov. Rodolfo Navarro, Mayors Guillermo Romarate and Clemente Sandigan Jr.

4 cops killed in NPA ambush in Surigao City

BUTUAN CITY—AT LEAST FOUR POLICEmen were killed and five others were seriously wounded during an ambush staged by New People's Army (NPA) rebels in a remote village of Surigao City on Friday afternoon.

The attack was the latest in the series of rebel-initiated offensives against military and police targets in the Caraga region.

Senior Supt. Celso Curitana, Surigao del Norte police chief, said his men were on their way home from an antimining operation in Barangay Mat-i when ambushed by about 30 heavily armed guerrillas around 2 p.m.

Killed were SPO4 Eleuterio Espejon, PO2 Reywin Alabat, PO2 Jobert Montenegro and PO1 Armando Ragas.

Curitana said the policemen, who belong to the elite Provincial Mobile Group, were serving as security detail for local environmental officials, who went to the area to arrest illegal small-scale mining operators.

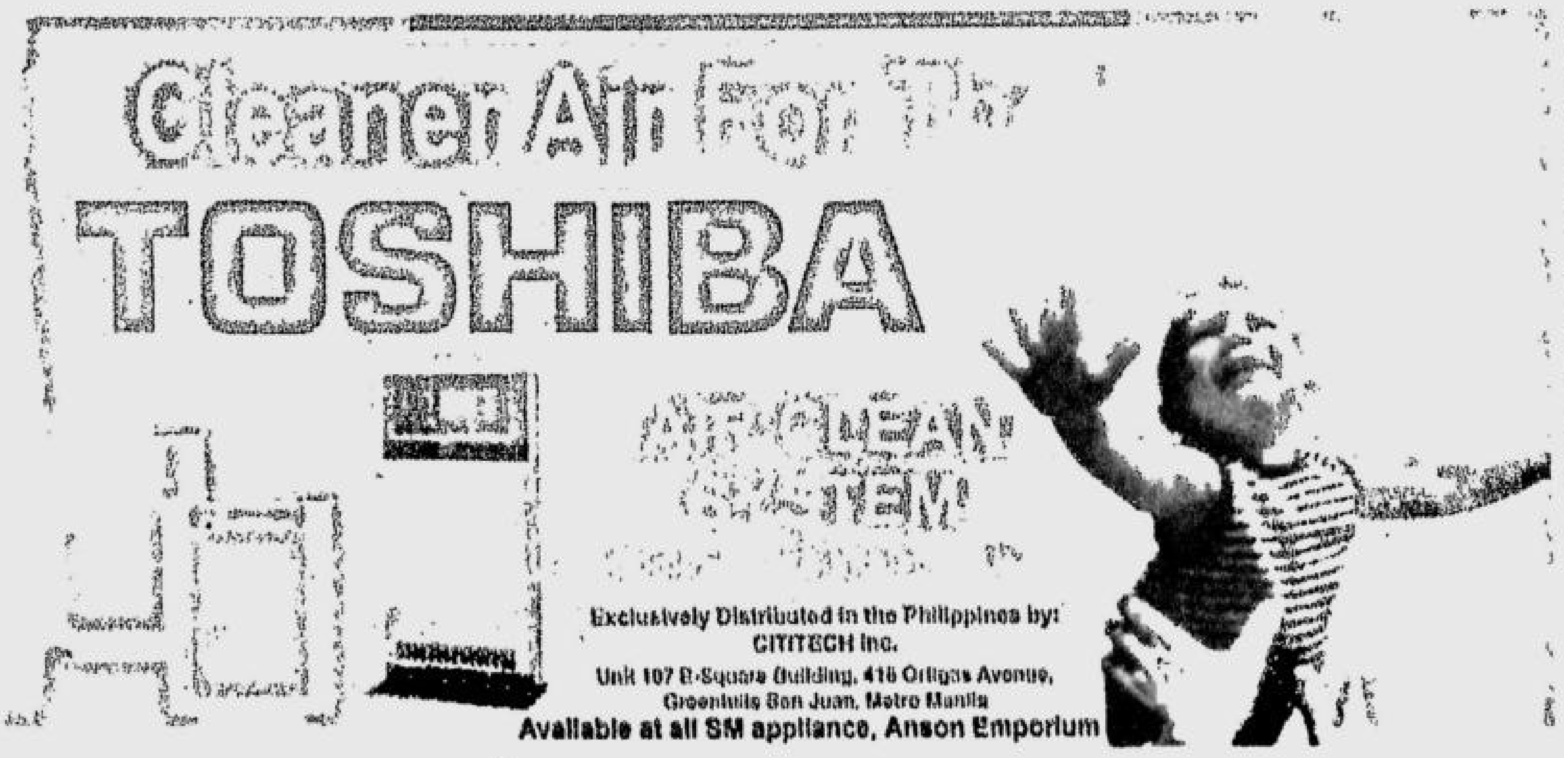
"There was no reported casualty among the team of environment officials," he said.

A red-faced Curitana vowed to go after the NPA rebels in the area.

"The killings were senseless. We did not go there for combat but to enforce environmental laws," he said.

Last week, NPA guerrillas launched seven simultaneous attacks on remote military and police outposts in the region.

Jorge Madlos, alias Ka Oris, spokesperson of the National Democratic Front in Mindanao said the attacks were their share to the growing people's movement demanding the resignation of President Macapagal-Arroyo. *Franklin M. Caliguid, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



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A patch of green in a concrete jungle

By Tarra V. Quismundo

LIKE AN UNEXPECTED GLEN IN a jungle of high-rises, a patch of nature awaits the weary in a rather lesser known district of Makati City.

After watching rows and rows of skyscrapers, more and more people are finding it a pleasure to just sit quietly at the Makati Park and Garden, a three-hectare government-run recreation area east of the city's business district.

"What the park gives us is a place to relax, a place to relieve stress and, at the same time, to appreciate nature. In the urban center, all you see is concrete," said Moises Camacho, head of the Parks and Green Division of Makati's Department of Environmental Services.

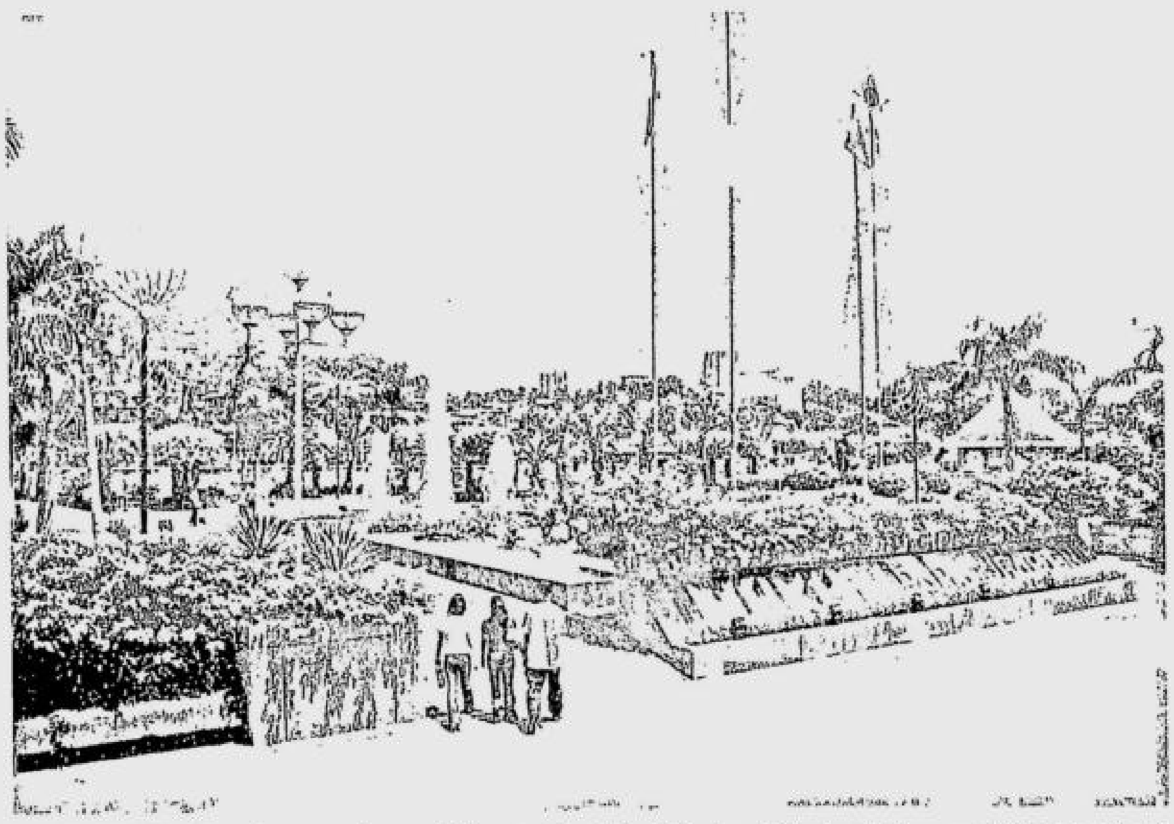
Inaugurated in 1997 as the city's "showcase park," the Makati Park and Garden has become a landmark in the largely residential Barangay West Rembo, located right across from the University of Makati near the military's Fort Bonifacio.

The park was the first of its kind, a patch of greenery and blooms along the Pasig River, Camacho said. Formerly known as Liwasang Bonifacio, the government lot was used before for school gardening projects.

A field office of the Makati's engineering department and a building of the Fort Bonifacio Elementary School used to stand on what was primarily idle land.

Now it had been transformed into an urban refuge on J.P. Rizal Extension.

"City Hall thought there wasn't (a lot of) development in that district, while there were many residents there," said Camacho, an engineer.



DIFFERENT shades of green welcome visitors to the Makati Park and Garden in Barangay West Rembo. A refreshing sight for people tired of looking at the Metro's gray and black landscape. JOSEPH AGCAOILI

Leisure area

The park's two-phase development was completed in 1999. Since then, it had become a favorite leisure area for students, families, couples, and anyone wanting a little quiet time.

"There are many shaded spots here, and people who come will have a place to relax. But many come here because there are several activities they can do—jog, do aerobics, study, rehearse for school presentations…" Camacho added.

Unlike other linear parks and paved walkways along the banks of the Pasig River in some parts of Makati and neighboring Manila, the Makati Park and Garden, a smoke-free facility, was designed to let visitors enjoy more than just a leisurely walk.

It is just a short jeepney ride from the Metro Rail Transit Guadalupe Station on Edsa. A fountain stands just past the main entrance, its dancing waters rising up to 15 feet.

Brick paths serve to guide visitors on a tour around the park, bringing them to such attractions as a lagoon with a floating gazebo, a Japanese garden, and man-made waterfalls. Visitors often share their snacks with the lagoon's "residents," families of ducks and fishes.

Restful

In almost every corner of the park, shaded by trees or trellises fully covered with lavender bougainvillea and yellow bells, are benches for resting tired feet. Or people can just sit on the grass and even enjoy a picnic.

"Disabled children come here to do some physical activity. Seniors come here to walk or jog… others use our sandy area to soak their feet in warm sand (as a form of) therapy," said Noemi Tugade, the park's maintenance supervisor.

To the right of the park is an amphitheater that can seat roughly 1,000 people. City-sponsored cultural presentations were often held here, said Camacho.

On the other side is the Artist's Center, a 500-person function room often used as venue for weddings, birthday parties, receptions, and other events.

Originally designed to serve as an exhibit hall for artists, the function room has brought additional income to the city. The hall is rented out for P5,000 per four hours for residents, P7,000 for non-residents.

"It has become so popular that reservations have to be made six months ahead. The Artist's Center is always fully booked," said Lydia Donato, Parks and Green Division deputy chief.

Memorial

A section of the park was turned into a memorial for the person after whom the park was originally named, the Katipunan leader Andres Bonifacio. His bronze statue stands on a platform overlooking a paved open space, where ceremonies are occasionally held.

A few steps away is the children's sand-filled playground.

The park's lush vegetation has made it a favorite nesting place for many birds.

Donato, an agriculturist by profession, counted some 734 trees and 36 species of flowers in the park. Trees include hardwood like acacia, *narra*, and *molave*, and flowering ones like golden showers, *champaca*, *calachuchi* and *ilang-ilang* trees.

Various flowering plants also add color to the park, including orchids, *bandera españolas*, *gumamelas*, margaritas, *lantanas*, *rubias*, *adelfa*, *alamanda*, and yellow sundrops.

The plants came from a nursery to the left of the park, which was set up to make the park self-sufficient. Donato said the nursery, capable of propagating some 100,000 pots per year, supplied plants to the city's other greening projects.

As an added bonus, the lush greenery seemed to mask the foul smell of the Pasig River.

"Soon we will begin (labeling) the plants so those who would come here (would know) what kinds of trees and flowers (grew) here. Possibly, by next month..," said Donato.

At least seven kinds of nesting birds have made the park home, including doves, brown shrikes, gray wagtails, yellow vented bulbuls, pied fantails, barn swallows, and the migratory bird tera. Camacho, a bird enthusiast, said fish-eating eagles known as ospreys made seasonal visits.

The park has two aviaries housing pheasant birds and doves. A bigger aviary, currently under construction, would be home to flamingos the city is planning to acquire.

Crime-free

With a 30-man maintenance crew and a security staff of 21 guards, Makati Park and Garden could give park goers worry-free downtime. Camacho said since the park opened, there had been no report of crime within its premises.

"There's no violence here. The worst we've experienced was a lovers' quarrel, two women fighting over a man. We just politely asked them to leave and take it outside," said Norberto Bora, park security chief.

Tugade said her maintenance staff had retrieved pieces of jewelry in the lagoon that might have been tossed into the water in the heat of a lovers' spat.

But other than problems related to matters of the heart, the Makati Park and Garden was guaranteed a crime-free zone, said Camacho. The administration also closed the park's gates from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.

"At night, it's hard to control people. Drunks might come in, and we can't do anything. We (close the gates) to avoid violence, prevent vagrants from sleeping inside, and (for proper park maintenance)," Camacho said.

City Hall planned to improve the park some more, said Camacho. In the works are the expansion of the Artist's Center and the playground.

"(With the park), we are able to give back to people the taxes they paid the city, something they could concretely see. Urban life is very fast. With the park, you have an area where you could appreciate nature," Camacho said.

HORSE-DRAWN BEAUTY REM ZAMORA

Christine Chua, a 2nd year student of College of St. Benilde, peers out of a *kalesa* dressed as a jeepney during the 2nd Kalesa Festival held at the Quirino Grandstand in Manila. The event is part of the Philippine Tourism Authority's BEST (Beautiful and Exciting Sites and Trips) in the Philippines program.

Pets get blessing at park

By Tina G. Santos

ATASHA ROQUE believes her pets Brutus and Porche, both Labradors, have souls and she wants them to be with her in heaven when she dies.

Roque, 35, of San Andres, Manila, was one of several pet owners who had some 50 animals blessed at the Baywalk in Roxas Boulevard yesterday morning.

"All dogs go to heaven," she said, adding that her dogs were family.

The event marked World Animal Day and the feast of St. Francis de Assisi, the patron of animals.

Animals brought to the blessing included a turtle, monitor lizard, mynah and other exotic pets.

Meanwhile, Sen. Manny Villar urged pet owners to be responsible as the country has the highest incidence of rabies in the world.

He filed Senate Bill 631 which calls for the control and eradication of rabies in pet animals

METROBRIEFS

Closer to Taguig folk

TAGUIG City is bringing public services closer to its residents. The local government has put up secondary offices in key places to serve the people better, the Taguig Public Information Office announced yesterday. Satellite offices has been set up in Fort Bonifacio, managed by Paul Michael Vasquez; Food Terminal Inc. (FTI), headed by Sophia Al-Raschid, and in Lower Bicutan under Nancy Pagsisihan. The FTI office will cover Barangays Upper Bicutan, Western Bicutan, Signal Village and Maharlika Village. The office at the Lower Bicutan will service Bagumbayan and Bagong Tanyag. The Poblacion barangays will remain under City Hall. *Jocelyn R. Uy*

Navotas hopeful of depot

NAVOTAS Mayor Toby Tiangco is pinning much hope that Organized Bus Route Terminal in the town will boost economic activity in the municipality. Tiangco said that aside from increased economic activity, the presence of the bus depot would put Navotas on the map. "Imagine all those buses on EDSA with Navotas terminal on their signs," the mayor said. He said enough safeguards have been set up to secure people who are going to use the bus terminal. *Nancy C. Carvajal*

Mandaluyong's best

MAYOR Neptali Gonzales II of Mandaluyong City is again looking for 10 of the city's most dedicated and outstanding employees as he launches the "Search of the 10 Most Outstanding Employees" for 2005. In its second year, the selection process is in two categories and in two phases. Plaques of recognition and a trophy await winners while the Mayor's Awardee will also receive P15,000 cash. Their departmets will also receive a cash incentive of P10,000. The outstanding employees will be chosen by a committee to be led by City Administrator Ernesto E. Victorino

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Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Pagunsan ends RP am dry spell

By Musong R. Castillo

BACOLOD CITY—THE SETTING couldn't have been more perfect.

After eight years and ranged against a formidable foreigner, Juvic Pagunsan finally won the Philippine Amateur title he has long dreamt of in front of an adoring throng in the city where it all started.

Showing why he's one of Southeast Asia's best, Pagunsan turned the second half of a 36-hole final against Siva Chandhran into a leisurely walk, overwhelming the Malaysian No. 2 player, 6 and 5, to nail the only title missing in his storied amateur career.

"I have won tournaments before, even overseas, but I have never felt this happy," Pagunsan, seeded second in match play, told the INQUIRER in Filipino. "Finally, my amateur career is complete. And doing it in my hometown makes it more special.

"Whatever comes after this, before I turn pro, is a bonus."

It was the fourth title of the year for Pagunsan, a former caddy at the Binitin course in nearby Murcia town, after the Malaysian and Thailand Amateur Opens and the DHL Amateurs in Canlubang.

The 27-year-old Pagunsan turned on the pressure in the final 18 holes in the afternoon, going five under from the 19th to the 31st hole while Chandhran could only match par for the same stretch at the Negros Occidental Golf and Country Club layout here.

Chandhran was actually shooting to become the first foreigner to win the RP Am in 36 years when Australian Andrew Drage topped all comers in the 1969 version at old Valley Golf.

"He (Pagunsan) was very hot, there was no way anyone could have beaten him today," said Malaysian coach Andrew Argus, a countryman of Drage.

Earlier, Mario Labajo, a former caddy at the Matina course in Davao and one of three entries of the National Caddies' Open program, placed third after a 3 and 2 victory over local star JR Tanpinco.

The event is organized by the National Golf Association of the Philippines and backed by ICTSI, San Miguel Corp., Petron Blaze, the DOT, PSCO, Aboitiz Group, Hanjin and PAL.

ROGER CARPIO

BREAKTHROUGH for Juvic

PBA OPENER

R. Bull meets P'foods today

BOLSTERED BY FRESH FACES and impressive imports, Red Bull Barako and Purefoods Chunkee clash to open the 31st season of the Philippine Basketball Association today and launch their bids to end a three-year championship drought.

The opener is set at 6 p.m. following a lengthy opening ceremony unprecedented in league history.

Apart from the presence of high-profile guests and personalities, the players will wear costumes hinged on the theme "Laban kung Laban" during the parade of teams ushering the San Mig Coffee-PBA Fiesta Conference.

Defending champion San Miguel Beer will troop to the Araneta Coliseum hardcourt dressed up in American mafia-inspired attire while crowd-favorite Barangay Ginebra will march in Roman gladiator getup.

Purefoods Chunkee will be garbed like pirates, Coca-Cola players will drape themselves with the Tigers' orange-and-black hide and Alaska will relive the apparel of the characters in the musical hit "Grease."

It's the Star Wars motif for Air21 and the Matrix for Sta. Lucia Realty while Talk 'N Text players will pick their costume from the roadshow Fast and Furious. The Red Bull Barakos will be in cyclist's togs.

The Barakos and the Giants, who both won last in 2002, hired imports fresh out of college in the US NCAA with outstanding credentials. Both teams also acquired rookies who captured Most Valuable Player awards as amateurs.

The Barakos brought in 6-foot-5 Quemont Greer, who powered De Paul University to a respectable 17-8 record in the US NCAA by norming 17.7 points and 7.3 rebounds in his senior year.

"Based on what I've seen so far, I think he (Greer) is fit for the team," said Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao. "He's not that flashy, but he's very effective."

Aside from getting former NCAA MVP Leo Najorda from the draft, the Barakos also snatched Larry Fonacier and Paolo Bugia, who could very well complement Rico Villanueva as they try to relive their formidable Ateneo chemistry.

Villanueva, Fonacier and Bugia played for Ateneo in its 2002 UAAP title run.

Entering the first full season of the post-Alvin Patrimonio era, the Giants have transferred the mantle of stardom to Kerby Raymundo and James Yap, coach Ryan Gregorio's primary options in offense.

Gregorio added size and heft by snagging power-forward Jondan Salvador, a former PBL MVP, from the draft and hiring Marquin Chandler, considered as the best among the this year's imports.

Boxing-sensation Manny Pacquiao, newly crowned World Boxing Council light flyweight champion Brian Viloria and rising star Ray "Boom Boom" Bautista will also grace the two-hour opening ceremony. *June Navarro*

GAME TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
4 p.m.—Opening Ceremonies
6 p.m.—Red Bull Barako vs Purefoods Chunkee

Country's flag-bearer remains a mystery

6
days to go before
23rd SEA Games

WHO will be the country's flag-bearer for the Southeast Asian Games this November?

That question remains unanswered less than two months to go before the event starts.

Among those being considered to display the country's tri-colors in the opening ceremony are boxers Harry Tanamor and Violito Payla, long jump queen Marestella Torres, bowler CJ Suarez and wushu artist Rene Catalan.

The Philippine SEAG Organizing Committee is expected to make its decision next week. *Marc Reyes*

NCO stars strut stuff

BACOLOD CITY—IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE just a routine exposure stint, one to introduce three unknowns to big-time golf.

But after five days of the Philippine Amateurs, the Labajo brothers, Mario and Joseph, and reed-thin Jonel Ababa have made heads turn and gained a lot of believers.

"The National Golf Association of the Philippines commends the National Caddies' Open program," retired vice admiral Luisito Fernandez, also the NGAP secretary general, said yesterday. "They did well here and we expect to see them play in more tournaments."

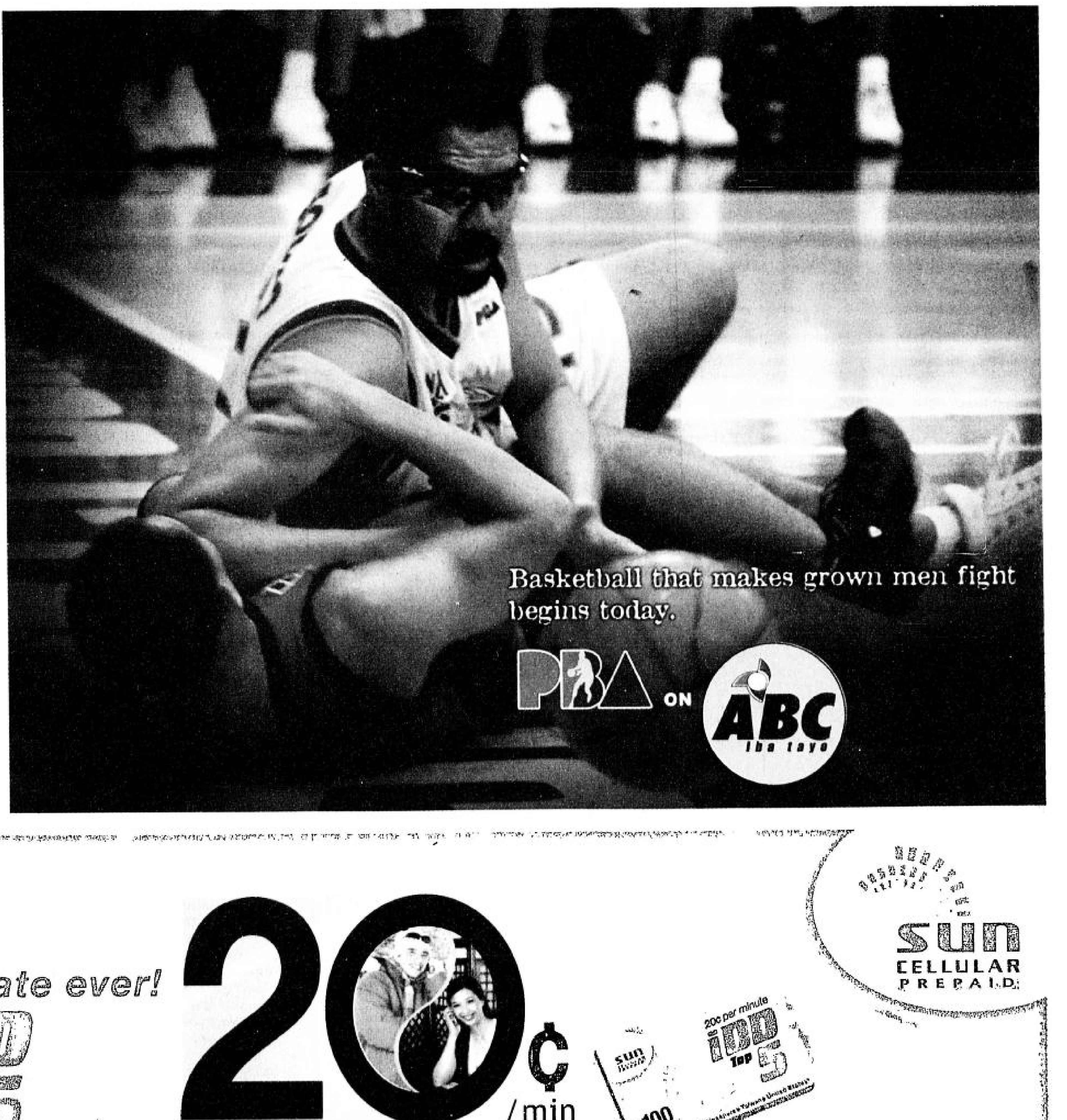
The NCO program took the three in its fold after a ranking tournament last March, funding, feeding and housing them at the Calatagan Golf and Country Club with the aim of producing a Philippine team member from among them in the next two years.

"The program has gone on for just eight months and results have started to show," said sportsman Hermie Esguerra, who shares chairmanship chores at the NCO with Wack Wack president Ben Abalos, a former caddy. "The results we gained in the RP Am show we're doing something right and encourage us to continue."

Fernandez was one of the first to show appreciation to the efforts of the NCO bets after Mario Labajo defeated local boy and RP pool member JR Tanpinco, 3 and 2, for third place.

"Definitely, the caddies' program, as witnessed in this event, will be of big help to the overall development of amateur golf (in the country)," added Fernandez, who ran the Philippines' three national championships this year.

The 34-year-old Mario made the semis by taking out RP No. 2 and top seed Artemio Murakami, 1-up, on Friday, a reversal that reverberated all over the Negros Occidental Golf and Country Club course.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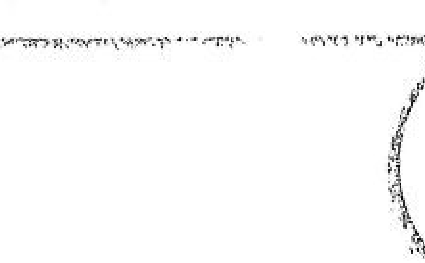
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Bacchus/Harbour Centre ousts Taguig

BACCHUS/HARBOUR CENTRE maintained its magical winning run by ousting defending Northern Conference champion Forward Taguig, 74-72, Friday in the semifinals of the 2005 Panasonic-NBC national basketball championship at the San Beda-Manila gym.

Allan Gamboa bailed out Bacchus/Harbour from collapse by hitting the game's last two baskets.

Steve Marucot and Leo Vilar combined for eight points to give Mayor Freddie Tinga's Taguig cagers a 72-70 lead with less than two minutes left.

But Gamboa, who finished with 12 points and nine rebounds, made his move to lift Bacchus/Harbour into a meeting with Far Eastern Insurance-backed Cavite for the northern division crown.

Bacchus/Harbour trailed by 16 early in the second quarter, 15-31, but held Taguig to nine points in the second quarter to grab the lead at the turn, 40-37.

Brit Reroma scored 13 points in the second half for Bacchus.

All-RP final showdown in ITF juniors tourney

By Marc Anthony Reyes

IT'S AN ALL-FILIPINO FINALS.

Miguel Lorenzo Narvaez and Nico Riego de Dios fashioned out contrasting wins in the semifinals yesterday to ensure that the second round of the Phinma-ITF junior tennis championship will go to a local boy.

Narvaez had a breeze in eliminating Toshiya Suzuki, 6-0, 6-1, but De Dios endured a rough second set before ousting compatriot Michael Basco, 6-2, 7-5.

"It's going to be interesting because both of us are in top form," said Narvaez, the 17-year-old who is currently the second highest ranked Filipino junior at 408th. He is behind Kyle Dandan (260th) who is competing abroad.

The duo met just once before with Narvaez winning (6-1, 6-4) in the inaugural staging of this tourney two years ago.

But Narvaez admitted that De Dios has improved considerably. "I've followed his game and saw a big improvement. But I will just be working on my own game and see how it works."

The 18-year-old De Dios, who was runner-up last year here, is hoping to use the experience he has gained playing in 12 international tournaments this year.

"It's going to be tough facing him but it all boils down to how we carry ourselves once we are in the court," said De Dios, who holds an ITF junior ranking of 536.

The girls' finals, however, was deprived of local flavor when Stephanie Vogt of Liechtenstein booted out Noelle Nikki Zoleta, 6-0, 6-4.

Vogt will dispute the title against Austrian Natascha Bredl, who upset compatriot Kathrina Negrin, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (0).

Top seeds Hugh McDonald and William McNamee outlasted Chang Yu-chi and Lin Yuwen of Taiwan, 6-3, 4-6, 7-5, to make the boys' doubles finals against second seeds Fendy Gunawan of Indonesia and Narvaez.

First-leg titlists Edilyn Balanga and Denise Dy guns for a double after battering Lo Chiaofan and Chen Yu-ming of Taiwan, 6-3, 6-1, in the semis. They will take on Vogt and Negrin.

BEACH VOLLEY: Cecile Tabuena and Michelle Laborte of the Philippine Navy dive for the ball against the tandem of Rolyn Marquicias and Sheryl Laborte in the Petron Ladies Beach Volleyball being held at the Baywalk, Roxas Blvd., Manila. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Callaway supports Eagle Ridge

CALLAWAY GOLF IS THROWING ITS SUPPORT for the giant Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club by sponsoring its remaining major tournaments for the year starting with the members monthly tournament on Oct. 15 at the Norman and Faldo courses of the country's largest golf complex.

Through its exclusive local distributor Planet Sports Inc., Callaway Golf will be providing prizes to the various winners of the 18-hole individual stroke play tournament which will also include special skills contests on the two courses which form half of Eagle's giant 72-hole facility.

More than a hundred members of Eagle Ridge are playing in the run up to the much-awaited re-launch of their member-guest invitational (4x4 Tee) in December.

Randy Rana, brand manager for Callaway of Planet Sports, said that they are also supporting the November and December tournaments of Eagle Ridge.

For inquiries, call 046-4192841, 046-4192855, 7424264 or 7424265.

Hawks sweep STI for Naascu crown

By Marc Anthony Reyes

UNIVERSITY OF MANILA, PLAYING just hard enough, blasted STI College, 81-74, to clinch a record fifth straight men's basketball championship in the National Athletics Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (Naascu) yesterday.

Instead of firing away from all fronts as in Game 1, the Hawks methodically cut the Olympians down to size this time with a lot of setup and deliberate plays.

"What's the use of unloading all your energies trying to score a rout when we know that we can pull it off by playing deliberate basketball," said UM coach Ato Tolentino, who was also in the limelight last year by winning the NCAA title for Philippine Christian University.

UM's winning streak was cut at 86 this season but its resolve, just like its powerhouse lineup, remained intact throughout the best-of-three final series.

Despite the loss, there was no shame for championship newcomer STI, which made the finals via a twin kill of St. Clare, the same spunky squad that dealt UM its first ever defeat.

Naascu president Dr. Ernest Jay Adalem said that with UM's loss this season, the league has reached the next level of maturity with a promise of an even stronger field for the next season.

UM president lawyer Ernesto delos Santos thanked the league for keeping the Hawks on their toes throughout.

"We can't take anybody for granted anymore," said Delos Santos.

League MVP Ryan Regalado scored 19 points for the Hawks, but it was Gener Bernados who came up with a championship performance, scoring 17 points and grabbing 21 rebounds.

The scores:

UM 81—Regalado 19, Bernados 17, Napiza 13, Litonjua 13, Santiago 7, Maliksi 6, Bonus 6, Ocampo 0.

STI 74—Micutuan 20, Mabayo 14,Legaspi 9, Dia 8, Stapley 8, Belano 5,Lunar 4,Wong 2, Botin 2, Ebuengga 2, Mijares 0.

Quarters: 25-20, 51-42, 68-56, 81-74

Salgado files leave

By Jasmine W. Payo

SLAPPED WITH THE HEAVIEST sanction ever against a team official, La Salle assistant team manager Manny Salgado said that an appeal on his lifetime banishment from the UAAP isn't among his current agenda.

"I would just like to keep quiet for now and rethink my plans," said Salgado. "As I've said, I know my actions were uncalled for and I apologize."

Now calm and contrite, the controversial team official added that he wouldn't want his Archers to be distracted by the issue.

"I attended our team's practice and told the players to put the incident behind them and focus on the game," said Salgado.

Last Friday, the UAAP board banned Salgado from "personally watching all UAAP sports competitions in all the venues" after assaulting Far Eastern U superstar Arwind Santos in Game 1 of the the Finals series.

La Salle, led by president Br. Armin Luistor, condemned Salgado's behavior and apologized to Santos and the FEU community.

Salgado filed a leave of absence from La Salle even before the league handed its decision.

La Salle-Zobel eyes end to 50-year title drought

THE LAST TIME DE LA SALLE-ZOBEL came close to the UAAP junior basketball title was 15 years ago when it lost in the finals to the Adamson Baby Falcons.

This year, the Bengals are again on the threshold of claiming the crown by making the best-of-three finals against UPIS.

"We will make our fellow La Sallians and our parents proud, win or loss," coach Boris Aldguer said. "Duplicating the achievements of the great Kurt Bachman and the team of 1955 is a wonderful goal for us."

Former La Salle and Alaska ace Dino, Boris' younger brother, steered DLS-Zobel to the finals of the 1990 event.

The Bengals under Aldeguer made the Final Four last year. This year, DLS-Zobel is powered by Simon Atkins, David Urra, Dan Salvador, Martin Reyes, David Joshua Webb, Migs de Asis, Enz Tumlos, Mike Fernandez Gio Espina, Collin Buckley, Jobo Teodocio, Manods handumal, Melvin Sun and Aldo Malixi.

"All my players are homegrown," stressed Aldeguer, a former Junior Archer. The Bengals won this year's MMBL by beating the Letran Squires in the finals.

Aldeguer said that the Junior Maroons are very talented and determined. "It's going to be very exciting and thrilling. The series features two teams which will not give an inch in search for the trophy." *Dennis Eroa*

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Metro Manila Development Authority
PASIG RIVER REHABILITATION COMMISSION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Project : Pasig River Environmental Management and Rehabilitation Sector Development Program (PAREMAR)
Loan No . Asian Development Bank (ADB) Loan No. 1746-PHI
Description of Works:
Construction and Development of Community Facilities (Day Care Center, Health Center, Multi-Purpose Hall and Market) for Sub Urban Housing and KV1 relocation sites located in Bgy. San Jose, Rodriguez Rizal.

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the ADB toward the cost of PAREMAR and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan, together with the GOP counterpart funds, to payments under the Contract for Community Facilities w/ site development (Contract No EPA-RAP-CF08 to CF17)
2. The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) as the executing agency now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the following contract package:

Contract Package	Contract No.	Area (sq.m.)	Location	Contract Duration	Project Description
Package 1: Site Development and Construction of Standard Day Care Center (Sub-Urban)	EPA-RAP-CF09	Floor Area = 80 Land Area = 680	Sub Urban Housing Project and KV1 San Jose Plains, Bgy. San Jose, Rodriguez Rizal	90 c.d.	Construction and development of Community Facilities which includes the following items of work: construction of temporary facilities; earthworks; civil works; steel works; architectural works,. tinsmitry; sanitary/ plumbing works, site development and electrical works
Package 2 Site Development and Construction of Standard Day Care Center (KV1)	EPA-RAP-CF10	Floor Area = 80 Land Area = 840		90 c.d.	
Package 3 Site Development and Construction of Sub-Urban Market	EPA-RAP-CF11	Floor Area = 600 Land Area = 1,100		120 c.d.	
Package 4 Site Development and Construction of Multi-Purpose Hall (Sub-Urban)	EPA-RAP-CF12	Floor Area = 300 Land Area = 2,050		120 c.d.	
Package 5 Site Development and Construction of Standard Day Care Center and Health Center (Sub-Urban)	EPA-RAP-CF13	Floor Area = 144 Land Area = 1,784		120 c.d.	
Package 6 Site Development and Construction of Standard Day Care Center (KV1)	EPA-RAP-CF14	Floor Area = 80 Land Area = 580		90 c.d.	
Package 7 Site Development and Construction of Standard Health Center and Multi-Purpose Hall (KV1)	EPA-RAP-CF15	Floor Area = 364 Land Area = 2,280		120 c.d.	
Package 8 Site Development and Construction of Standard Day Care Center (KV1)	EPA-RAP-CF16	Floor Area = 80 Land Area = 200		90 c.d.	
Package 9 Site Development and Construction of Standard Day Care Center (KV1)	EPA-RAP-CF17	Floor Area = 80 Land Area = 520		90 c.d.	

3. Interested Bidders shall secure the Bid Documents and submit bids as follows:

Activity	Date	Time	Venue	Remarks
Securing of (a) Eligibility Checklist or (b) submission of Letter of Intent and purchase of complete set of Bid Documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 12,500.00	Oct. 10 – 17, 2005	8:00 AM to 5.00 PM	PRRC, 2F, MWSS, Eng'g. Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City 1105	Eligibility checklist is free of charge
Securing of additional eligibility information (if any) and inspection of Bidding Documents	Oct. 10 – 17, 2005	8:00 AM to 5.00 PM		For those who secured only the Eligibility Checklist
Pre-Bid Conference	17 Oct. 2005	8:00 AM	Rodriguez Municipal Hall Conference Room A, 2/F Municipal Bldg., J.P. Rizal Ave., Rodriguez Rizal	
Site Inspection	17 Oct. 2005	2:00 PM	Sub Urban Housing Project and KV1 San Jose Plains, Bgy. San Jose, Rodriguez Rizal	
Deadline for Submission of Bids	26 Oct. 2005	10.00 AM	Rodriguez Municipal Hall Conference Room A, 2/F, Municipal Bldg., J.P. Rizal Ave., Rodriguez, Rizal	Late Bids shall not be accepted
Opening of Bids	26 Oct. 2005	10:30 AM		Bids shall be opened in the presence of the bidders

4. LGU-Rodriguez shall be the implementing agency of the Contract.
5. Bidding (Eligibility Check / Prequalification, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract) shall be conducted on the basis of local competitive bidding among interested Bidders from ADB eligible source countries as defined under the *Guidelines for Procurement by the Asian Development Bank and its Borrowers*" pursuant to the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. No. 9184 and ADB Guidelines for the Procurement of Civil Works as standardized under the harmonized ADB-GOP Procurement of Works guidelines.
6. PRRC-IABAC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at anytime prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) Bingle H. B. Gutierrez
Executive Director, PRRC

(Sgd.) Pedro Cuerpo
Municipal Mayor, Rodriguez, Rizal

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2F, MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City 1105
Tel. Nos. 433-3444 and 433-3446 • Email Address: prrc@tri-isys.com • Fax No. 926-8444

(PDI – October 2 2005)

'Heart of a winner'

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

BACOLOD CITY — FRANCES BONDAD was almost expected to win it. And she did.

But Mia Piccio wasn't even given an iota of a chance to win it. And she almost won it.

At least that was what many from the huge gallery thought. Mia was too young for war.

After Frances had beaten the game Mia, 2 & 1, on Friday to win the first ever ladies division title of the Philippine Amateur Golf Championship at the Negros Occidental Golf & Country Club here, there was a mixture of reaction from the crowd.

Sure, the congratulatory part was showered on Frances. Handshakes here, handshakes there.

But the applause went to Mia the most. Hugs here, hugs there.

We are an underdog country, remember?

And certainly, Frances Bondad understood. She was the overwhelming favorite not only to win the crown but also to beat Mia, albeit easily.

But no. Mia put up not just a terrific fight but also a most gallant stand unexpected of one barely into her teens not only against Frances, which was spectacular to say the least, but also against a field dominated by the NGAP's national training pool.

At 13, Mia was the youngest among 11 entries in the ladies division, five of whom were members of the National Training Pool.

For Mia to reach the finals against undoubtedly the best gold prospect in women's golf in the coming SEA Games was a feat worthy of our adulation.

"Not that she is my daughter, but my wife (Gina) and I honestly feel Mia is already a winner to us," said Boy Piccio, Mia's father. "If there's one happy defeat that we will never forget, this should be it."

So happy was Admiral Louie Fernandez that she immediately named Mia to the National Team set to play in Hong Kong shortly.

"I've never seen so young a player so composed, so focused and determined to win like Mia," said Fernandez, the NGAP secretary general who was chair of the tournament's organizing committee. "We need more of Mia's kind to prop up our national ladies training pool. If her school schedule will allow her, let's put her in that tournament in Hong Kong."

Mia was a picture of concentration and oozing with fight juices the whole week you'd be justified to say she is not 13 years old.

But she is.

And how about this: She had high fever two days before the tournament's blastoff on Tuesday, Sept. 27. Besides a Golem Silverio-polished swing, what helped Mia carry through the rigors of battle were antibiotics to also contain a pesky cough.

After finishing a strong fourth in the qualifying round to earn her a bye, Mia took on the veteran Lina de Guzman in the quarterfinals.

To the happy amazement of the gallery that included Ramon Uy, Anky Jison, Dr. Ed Ordonez, Jojo Quilop and Joe Cajili among others, the 13-year-old Mia engaged the 30-plus Lina shot for shot, eventually defeating the many-time national player after 21 grueling holes, 1-up.

In outlasting the experienced Lina, Mia's youth never wavered one bit.

It was a match that delighted the crowd no end.

Who said youth is wasted on the young?

But if the Piccio-De Guzman battle was a match between the past and the future as Gaby G. Monfort put it, Mia's astonishing victory over the one-time world junior champion and former Philippine Ladies Open winner Carmelette Villaroman was a story of courage and brave heart.

In turning the tables on Villaroman, a many-time national player like De Guzman, Mia rallied from three holes down in the last eight holes to prevail, 1-up, to set up the unexpected championship clash with Frances Bondad.

In Friday's finals, Mia played beyond her age again and went 1-up on the 17-year-old Frances with five holes left to play with a birdie from 18 feet on the 13th.

But after regulation pars for both on 14, Mia missed her tee shot on 15 and was short in her approach, ending up with a bogey to go all square with Frances with three holes to go.

And then Frances finally put her best foot forward.

After both greened the par 3 16th, Frances rammed home a 12-footer to go 1-up after Mia missed her own birdie from 18 feet.

Then on 17, Mia missed the green for bogey against a routine par from Frances for Bondad's 2 & 1 victory.

The score did not totally reflect the thrill and drama of the match, which was consistently punctuated by fine shotmaking from both sides as neither one led by as many as one hole until the 17th.

But in defeat, the chubby-cheeked, bespectacled Mia got the compliment of her life from no less than her conqueror.

"Mia has a bright future if she keeps on playing," said Frances. "She has the right swing, the right attitude, the right stance and, most of all, a great courage to fight back despite the odds. She's only 13, but she already has the heart of a winner."

The jewel in the rough is being smoothened by Golem Silverio faster than I thought.

* * *

E-mail: menju@pldtdsl.net

Key officials back Fiba-POC deal

By Francis Ochoa

KEY OFFICIALS FROM FOUR OF THE FIVE major stakeholders required by the international basketball federation (Fiba) to unite for the formation of a new national sports association threw their support behind the memorandum of agreement (MOA) that could very well put an end to the current basketball controversy.

The officials also expressed optimism that the Fiba requirements could be met and the country's suspension from Fiba-sanctioned meets be lifted in time to save a Philippine stint in the coming Southeast Asian Games to be held here.

"It's a major step that has been undertaken to solve the basketball crisis," said PBA commissioner Noli Eala. "The board will act on it once it receives a copy of the MOA. But I don't think there's any problem among the major stakeholders in as far as supporting the MOA is concerned."

Under the MOA signed by Philippine Olympic Committee president Peping Cojuangco, POC chair Robert Aventajado and Fiba secretary general Patrick Baumann in Switzerland, the POC will form a new federation which the Fiba will recognize under certain conditions.

Among the conditions was the pooling of at least five major stakeholders: the PBA, PBL, UAAP, NCAA and Basketball Association of the Philippines (BAP) president Joey Lina, who was specifically named instead of the organization he represents.

Aside from Eala, Fr. Vic Calvo, Letran's representative to the NCAA board and the league's management committee chair, also said "we'll cooperate and contribute what we can to help solve the problem. We're confident we can work together."

PBL commissioner Chino Trinidad and UAAP board member Junjun Capistrano added that they see no problem if the group they are now part of is dissolved.

"If it assures a long-term solution for basketball, if it assures the lifting of the suspension and if we can do it fast enough to save our participation in the SEA Games, why not?" said Trinidad on the dissolution of the Philippine Basketball Federation Inc.

"If it is necessary to form a new group to solve the basketball crisis, I'm all for it," said Capistrano, the UAAP's representative to the PBFI.

Lina, on the other hand, refused to comment on the MOA.

"I will have to clarify things with Baumann first," Lina said. He did not elaborate, but said he would make an official statement today.

Cojuangco, however, warned the BAP against delaying the formation of the new group.

"If they delay this, it's their fault," Cojuangco stressed. "*Huwag na silang magtuturo sa POC na kami ang may kasalanan.* It's in their hands now."

Trinidad also said the stakeholders must act quickly: "Now that the real decision-maker of the sport has spoken, I guess this should pave the way for a unified basketball scene and this should be good for the long term." *With a report from Musong Castillo*

Jenny trails Office Depot golf by one; Gerald 34th in China

RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CALIFORNIA—Wendy Ward, Nicole Perrot of Chile, Karine Icher of France and Han Hee-won of South Korea each shot opening rounds of 6-under 65 on Friday, and took the lead in the LPGA Office Depot Championship.

The quartet was one shot better than Natalie Gulbis, the Philippines' Jennifer Rosales and Gloria Park of South Korea.

Gulbis, Rosales and Park each shot 66. Rosales had nines of 34-32 to put herself in contention.

Gulbis' round finished in just under six hours, the longest one she has played all year.

"Every hole has got a panoramic view of the water. It's a tough place to spend six hours," she said, jokingly. "It's like a national park out there."

Rookie Paula Creamer and British Open champion Jeong Jang were in a five-way tie for third at 67.

Two-time defending champion Annika Sorenstam was four back after a 69 that included four birdies and bogeys on Nos. 5 and 10, both par 4s.

Three groups were timed for slow play during the round that took some players six hours to complete because of numerous rulings. Darkness stranded a handful of players, who will finish the first round Saturday.

Ward, who earned her third career victory at Las Vegas in April, lost all three of her matches at the Solheim Cup, when the United States defeated Europe 2½ weeks ago.

In Beijing, China, Jenny's brother Gerald Rosales fired a 73 for a 219 that left him tied for 34th in the Crowne Plaze Open.

Another Filipino, Danny Zarate, shot a 77 and was five shots further back.

Aguilar leads PBL aspirants

JAPETH Aguilar, the 6-foot-7 Ateneo center, leads an array of promising players who will show their stuff when the Philippine Basketball League (PBL) conducts its Rookie Camp on Monday at the Reyes Gym in Mandaluyong City. The soft-spoken Aguilar is also hoping to equal if not better the achievements and plaudits earned by his father, Peter Aguilar, during his prime. Just like the young Aguilar, Bryan Baculi, a 5-foot-11 guard, and John Marc Agustin, a 6-foot-4 forward, are also itching to follow the footsteps of their fathers, who played in the league in the '80s. Baculi is the son of multi-titled mentor Junel, while Agustin is the son of former star Ato Agustin. Meanwhile, the last day for the submission of applications will be on Monday. Players are advised to bring their playing uniforms. For more inquiries, contact Lanie Sagayap at Tel. Nos. 667-3008-09.

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Metro Manila Development Authority
PASIG RIVER REHABILITATION COMMISSION

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid
Republic of the Philippines

Supply and Installation of Walkthrough Metal Detector (WMD) and Digital Video Recording Management System (DVRMS) for the Pasig River Ferry Stations

Supply and Installation of WMD and DVRMS and its Peripherals

The PRRC, through the General Appropriations Act of 2005 intends to apply the sum for the following contract packages:

Contract Package	Activity	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)
Package A PRFS-SS-WMD-01	Supply and Installation of WMD for the Pasig River Ferry Stations	Two million one hundred seventy three thousand seven hundred fifty two pesos and 56/100 centavos (P2,173,752.56)
Package-B PRFS-SS-DVRMS-01	Supply and Installation of DVRMS for the Pasig River Ferry	One million three hundred twenty one thousand three hundred seventy four pesos and 16/100 centavos (P1,321,374.16)

Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

The PRRC now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the following:

Contract Package	Activity	Pre-Bid Conference	Deadline for Submission of Bids	Bid Opening
Package-A PRFS-SS-WMD-01	Supply and Installation of Eight (8) sets of Walkthrough Metal Detector and its Peripherals	October 20, 2005 at 8:00 A.M.	November 03, 2005 at 10:00 A.M.	November 03, 2005 at 10:30 A.M.
Package-B PRFS-SS-DVRMS-01	Supply and Installation of Eight (8) sets of Dome Cameras, Digital Video Recorders and its Peripherals	October 20, 2005 at 1:00 P.M.	November 03, 2005 at 1:30 P.M.	November 03, 2005 at 2:00 P.M.

Delivery of the GOODS is required starting December 12, 2005. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00A.M. to 5:00P.M.:

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2F MWSS Engineering Building
Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City

A complete set of Bidding Documents for each package may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of TEN THOUSAND PESOS (Php 10,000.00). The method of payment shall be made only upon a certification by the Head of the Procuring Entity to the effect that the Goods have been rendered or delivered in accordance with the terms of the Contract and have been duly inspected and accepted. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The PRRC-IABAC will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties at the PRRC Conference Room.

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before the date indicated above. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in the form and amount stated in the Bid Data Sheet or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. Late Bids shall not be accepted.

Bid opening shall be on the date indicated above at the PRRC Conference Room. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.

The PRRC-IABAC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
Executive Director Bingle H.B. Gutierrez
2F MWSS Engineering Building, Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 433-3447, 433-3446, 433-3444, and 926-5234
Telefax No. 926-6449, Email: prrc@tri-isys.com

(Sgd.) Bingle H.B. Gutierrez
BAC-Chairperson

(PDI – October 2 & 9, 2005)

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Video Editing Techniques — **JASON MAGBANUA**, *WPPP*
Photoshop for Wedding Photographers — **JUN MIRANDA**, *PCCI*
Wedding Trends in USA — **LITO GENILO**, *WPPP*
Booking the High-End Bride — **PATRICK UY**, *PCCI*
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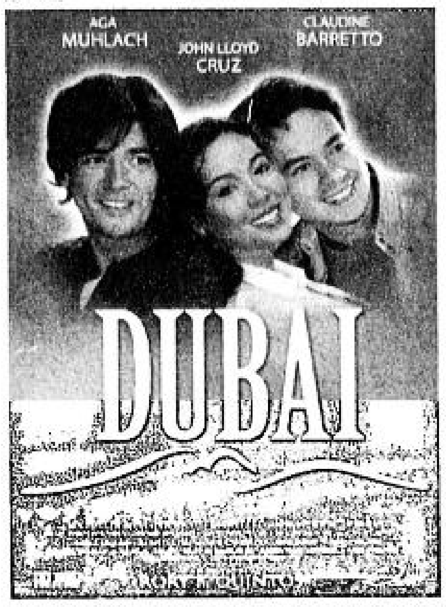

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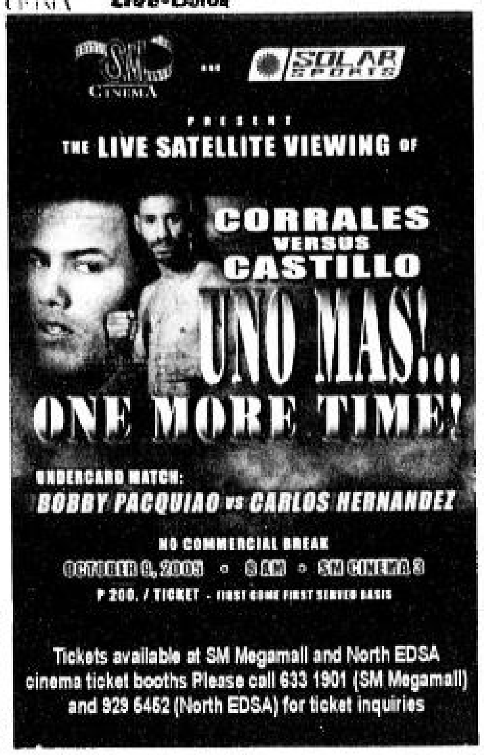

SM CINEMA and SOLAR SPORTS
PRESENT
THE LIVE SATELLITE VIEWING OF
CORRALES VERSUS CASTILLO
UNO MAS!.. ONE MORE TIME!
UNDERCARD MATCH:
BOBBY PACQUIAO vs CARLOS HERNANDEZ
NO COMMERCIAL BREAK
OCTOBER 9, 2005 • 8 AM • SM CINEMA 3
P 200. / TICKET - FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS
Tickets available at SM Megamall and North EDSA cinema ticket booths Please call 633 1901 (SM Megamall) and 929 5462 (North EDSA) for ticket inquiries

SM CINEMA CENTER Stage
NORTH EDSA
South Border
AT LARGE
October 7, 2005
8:00pm/Cinema
MEGAMALL
TRUMPETS
LITTLE MERMAID
October 4-7 & 11-15

SM movietime
FOR GUARANTEED SEATS

THE PODIUM 633-8976
1 TRANSPORTER 2
11:30FS/11:55MF/02:05/04:15/06:25/08:35
10:10LFS/10:45LMF/12:20END
2 PERFECT CATCH
11:30FS/11:55MF/02:05/04:15/06:25/08:35
10:15LFS/10:45LMF/12:45END

MEGAMALL
I WITNESS DOCUFEST
10:30FS/10:50MF/01:00/03:10/05:20/07:30
09:10LFS/9:40LMF/11:50END

CEBU (032) 231-3876
1 BROTHERS GRIMM
10:50FS/11:00MF/01:06/03:12/05:18/07:24
09:24LFS/09:30LMF/11:30END
2 DUBAI
10:05FS/10:10MF/12:25/02:50/05:15
07:05LFS/07:40LMF/09:30END
3 LAND OF THE DEAD
11:10FS/11:30MF/01:30/03:30/05:30/07:30
09:02LFS/09:30LMF/11:00END

MANILA
TRANSPORTER 2
10:15FS/10:30MF/12:20/04:00/05:50/07:40
09:15LFS/09:30LMF/11:05END

METRO MANILA

SM MEGAMALL
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 PERFECT MAN
3 PERFECT CATCH
4 DUBAI
5 ONE MISSED CALL 2
6 LAND OF THE DEAD
7 DARK WATER
8 SOUND OF THUNDER
9 DUBAI
10 LAZARUS CHILD
11 LOVESTRUCK
12 BLADE OF THE ROSE

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
1 DUBAI
2 BROTHERS GRIMM
3 DARK WATER
4 LAND OF THE DEAD
5 ONE MISSED CALL 2
6 PERFECT MAN
7 TRANSPORTER 2
8 LOVESTRUCK
9 DUBAI
10 A SOUND OF THUNDER
11 BLADE OF THE ROSE
12 CONSTANT GARDENER

SM NORTH EDSA
1 DUBAI
2 PERFECT MAN
3 LAND OF THE DEAD
4 BLADE OF THE ROSE
5 ONE MISSED CALL 2
6 LOVESTRUCK
7 TRANSPORTER 2
8 DUBAI

SM CITY MANILA
1 PERFECT MAN
2 LAND OF THE DEAD
3 LOVESTRUCK
4 CONSTANT GARDENER
5 BROTHERS GRIMM
6 TRANSPORTER 2
7 DUBAI
8 DARK WATER
9 ONE MISSED CALL 2
10 PERFECT CATCH
11 BLADE OF THE ROSE
12 DUBAI

SM CITY STA MESA
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 BROTHERS GRIMM
3 DUBAI
4 LAND OF THE DEAD
5 DUBAI
6 DARK WATER
7 BLADE OF THE ROSE
8 ONE MISSED CALL 2
9 LOVESTRUCK
10 PERFECT CATCH

SM CITY SOUTHMALL
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 LOVESTRUCK
3 DUBAI
4 LAND OF THE DEAD
5 DUBAI
6 DARK WATER
7 PERFECT MAN
8 ONE MISSED CALL 2
9 PERFECT CATCH
10 BLADE OF THE ROSE

SM SAN LAZARO
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 LAND OF THE DEAD
3 PERFECT CATCH
4 DUBAI
5 LOVESTRUCK
6 DUBAI

SM SUPERCENTER SUCAT
1 LAND OF THE DEAD
2 DUBAI
3 DUBAI
4 TRANSPORTER 2

SM CITY BICUTAN
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 DUBAI
3 DUBAI
4 LAND OF THE DEAD

LUZON

SM CITY PAMPANGA
1 BROTHERS GRIMM
2 DARK WATER
3 THE CAVE
4 LOVESTRUCK
5 DUBAI
6 DUBAI

SM CITY BACOOR
1 LAND OF THE DEAD
2 PERFECT CATCH
3 TRANSPORTER 2
4 DUBAI
5 BLADE OF THE ROSE
6 DUBAI
7 LOVESTRUCK
8 BROTHERS GRIMM

SM CITY DASMARINAS
1 LAND OF THE DEAD
2 DARK WATER
3 DUBAI
4 THE CAVE

SM CITY LUCENA
1 DUBAI
2 DUBAI
3 LONGEST YARD
4 A SOUND OF THUNDER

SM CITY BAGUIO
1 DUBAI
2 CINDERELLA MAN
3 LONGEST YARD
4 THE CAVE

SM CITY MARILAO
1 DUBAI
2 DUBAI
3 LOVESTRUCK
4 DARK WATER

SM CITY BATANGAS
1 DUBAI
2 DUBAI
3 THE CAVE
4 LONGEST YARD

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

SM CITY CEBU
1 BROTHERS GRIMM
2 SOUND OF THUNDER
3 CINDERELLA MAN
4 LAND OF THE DEAD
5 SHAOLIN VS EVIL DEAD
6 THE CROW 4: WICKED PRAYER
7 DUBAI
8 DUBAI

SM CITY ILOILO
1 BROTHERS GRIMM
2 RESERVED
3 DUBAI
4 THE CROW 4: WICKED PRAYER
5 SKY HIGH
6 THE CAVE
7 RESERVED
8 CINDERELLA MAN

SM CITY DAVAO
1 THE CAVE
2 SKY HIGH
3 DUBAI
4 A SOUND OF THUNDER
5 BROTHERS GRIMM
6 DUBAI

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
1 RED EYE
2 VALIANT
3 DUBAI
4 DUBAI

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

SM CINEMA movietime SNEAK PREVIEW
COLUMBIA PICTURES
Special Advance Showings at regular prices on October 3 and 4 at the following branches:
DEUCE BIGALOW EUROPEAN GIGOLO
FOR THE WOMEN OF EUROPE...THE PRICE OF LOVE JUST GOT A LOT CHEAPER.
OPENS OCTOBER 12
MTRCB Rating: R-13

*FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

Mauna sa Tawa!
ADVANCE SHOWINGS TOMORROW
MTRCB RATING R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS AND UP
REGULAR RUN BEGINS OCT 12
EDDIE GRIFFIN ROB SCHNEIDER
DEUCE BIGALOW EUROPEAN GIGOLO
FOR THE WOMEN OF EUROPE...THE PRICE OF LOVE JUST GOT A LOT CHEAPER.
www.SonyPictures.net
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
FROM THE MAKER OF THE PROFESSIONAL and LA FEMME NIKITA
THE BEST IN THE BUSINESS IS BACK IN THE GAME.
TRANSPORTER 2
NOW SHOWING

GREENHILLS CINEMAS
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA
THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 THE DESCENT PG13 11:50, 2:25, 5:00, 7:35, 10:10
CINEMA 2 PERFECT CATCH GP 11:20, 1:30, 3:40, 5:50, 8:00, 10:05
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
PROMENADE GREENHILLS
...a dinotertainment for all!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 3 CINEMALAYA 12:00, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
CINEMA 4 PERFECT MAN GP 11:50, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:20
CINEMA 5 TRANSPORTER 2 PG13 10:50, 1:05, 3:20, 5:35, 7:50, 10:10
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.
MUSIC MUSEUM
October 7,8,14,15,21,22 & 28 PENIS TALKS 2 : All About Men 9PM
October 27, 2005 TARA TAMBUNTING CONCERT 8PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

SHANG CINEPLEX
1 CINE EUROPA 8 1.00, 4.00, 7.00, 10.00 LMF
2 PERFECT MAN MTRCB GP 12.00, 2.30, 5.00, 7.30, 10.00 LMF
3 DUBAI MTRCB PG-13 12.00, 2.30, 5.00, 7:30, 10.00
4 TRANSPORTER 2 MTRCB PG-13 12.20, 2.45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00
PREMIERE THEATRE THE PERFECT CATCH
MTRCB GP 12.00 2.30 5.00, 7.30 10.00 LMF
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice
Catch the Cineplex Special
For every single purchase of two (2) tickets to "The Perfect Man" at the Shang Cineplex, get 20% discount coupons for "STUFF" by Hilary Duff watches from Kids Watch Central. Plus get a chance to win exciting prizes . Watches, Tin Boxes, T-shirts and Movie Posters.
Promo period September 28 October 4 2005 See posters for details Per DTI NCR permit no. 43 770 Series of 2005
Regular Ticket Price
Cinemas 1 to 4 - P150
Premiere Theatre - P295 (includes unlimited popcorn and beverage)
Call 633-7851, loc. 171 or 633-2227 / 633-4736 for more details.
Shangri-La Plaza

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Rockwell Center, Makati City
Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

PERFECT CATCH GP 12:50,3:05,5:20,7:35,9:50	THE PERFECT MAN GP 11:30,1:35,3:45, 5:55,8.05,10:15	DUBAI PG13 12:15,2.45,5:15, 7:45,10.15
DUBAI PG13 11:35,2.05,4:35 CONSTANT GARDENER PG13 6:50,9:20	THE DESCENT R18 1:10,3:30,5:50,8:10	TRANSPORTER 2 PG13 11:30,1.35,3:45, 5:55,8.05,10:15

Abaniel gains World semis

MOSCOW, RUSSIA—GRETCHEN ABANIEL posted A 33-28 victory over Aktop Deria of Turkey Friday, assuring the Philippines of a bronze medal in the 46-kg division of the 3rd World Women's Boxing Championships here.

Abaniel dominated the first round, 16-5, but allowed the Turk to come to within 13-11 in the second round. In the deciding third round, Abaniel parried the 2-3 combinations of Deria to enter the semis.

Mitchel Martines, who also won her first bout, battles Cuni Teuta of Sweden in another semifinal bout for Team Philippines.

₱2-M int'l tilt up

CAVITE COLISEUM DERBY CENTER AND CASINO, one of the biggest cockfighting centers in Southern Tagalog, celebrates its 15th anniversary on Nov. 29, Dec. 1 and 3 by staging the annual "Cavite 7–Cock International Derby."

No less than P2 million awaits the winners in this event which will be hosted anew by former Sen. Ramon Revilla and supported by his long-time friends Rudy Salud, Lito Orillaza, Vice Mayor Nestor Mercado and William Co.

"I am inviting our friends in the cockfighting circuit to support this derby for a cause," said Revilla. "A big part of derby proceeds go to a beneficiary." Entry fee is P30,000 with a minimum bet of P11,000. Contact 0915-5742399 or 0469704810 (look for Mandy or Ferdie Bautista) for cockhouse reservations. Backing up the derby are Pagcor Casino Filipino and Sagupaan Complexor 3000.

SPORTSWATCH

Sorolla eyes WBO title

BENJIE Sorolla's quest for the World Boxing Organization's Asia-Pacific min-flyweight crown against Thailand's Saengpetch Sor Sakulphan will be shown today on ABC Sports. Following his unanimous victory over Thai Sangpet Sam Sorgym, Sorolla is favored to snatch the title in the 12-round fight at the San Andres Stadium. ABC-5 will air the bout in the Ginebra San Miguel Ringside TV Boxing Special starting at 2 p.m.

Roligon Stag Festival

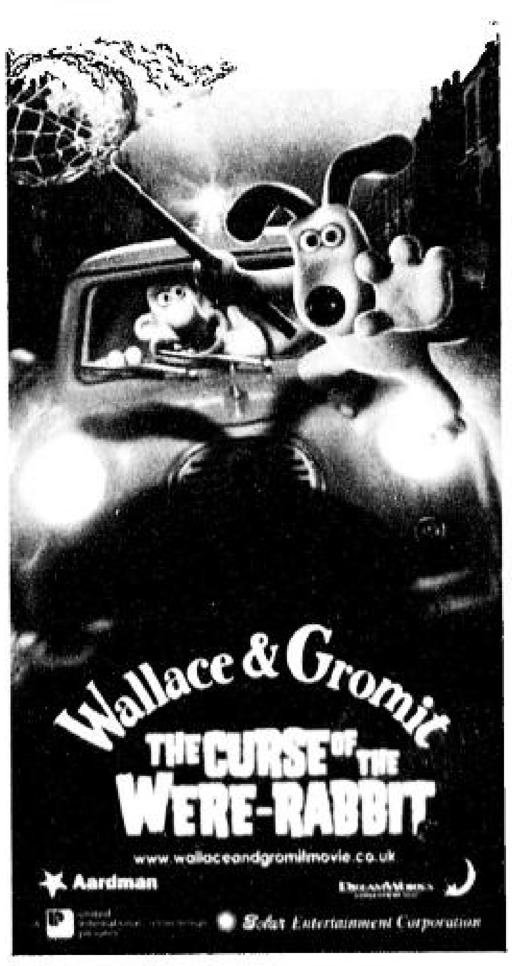
ROLIGON Mega Cockpit's "Stag Festival 5–stag derby" is set Oct. 15, 17 and 19 with over 200 participants. Entry fee is P7,700, said host Rolly Ligon. The guaranteed prize is P1.3 million. The fastest win champion will drive home an Isuzu Big Horn 4 X 4. Stags previously banded for 'Showdown' derby will be accepted, but only those with young and regular classifications. Screening of entries is on at Roligon every Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Those who prefer farm–to-farm screening, contact 851-2275, 833-1638, 852-9812 and 0917–8277484.

LGBA finals start early

THE "LUZON Gamecock Breeders Association (LGBA) 7–Stag Derby" championship round, featuring 164 fights, starts at 9 a.m. tomorrow at the Araneta Coliseum. LGBA president Rene "Boy" Diaz said from a field of 150, only 19 entries remained unbeaten with three wins each. Among them are the entries of Alex Tang, Anthony Lim, Tony Boy Tabora, Boy Gamilla, Joey Contreras, Jong Morales, Bobby del Rosario and Dong Chung, Rep. Larry Wacnang, Boyet Plaza, Larry Sevilla, Alwyn Sy and Gene Garcia and Benben de Guzman. For details, call 926-7808, 924-5072 and 0920-5851940.

2 entries top GCAP stagfest

TWO entries— McKinley of Rep. Jing Paras and Gengen Arayata and RT 114 of lawyer Edgar Santos and Ruel Ricafort—were declared co-champions Tuesday night in the third leg of the "Gentlemen Cockers Association of the Philippines (GCAP) 5 - stag derby" at the San Juan Coliseum. McKinley and RT 114 both finished with four wins and one loss to reign among 35 entries. The next GCAP 5 - stag derby, to be sponsored anew by Sagupaan Complexor 3000, unfolds on Oct. 5 also at San Juan Coliseum. Submission of entries is on Oct. 4, from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Call 725 -5665, 7255369 and 7277086 for details (look for Ariel). GCAP, is founded by Patrick Antonio.



IN THEATERS OCTOBER 12
FROM THE CREATORS OF CHICKEN RUN
Wallace & Gromit THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT
www.wallaceandgromitmovie.co.uk
Aardman
DreamWorks
Solar Entertainment Corporation

RP Golf Show begins Oct. 7

THE 10TH PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL golf Show will be held Oct. 7-9 at the Megatrade Hall of SM MegaMall in Mandaluyong.

Fifty two companies, most of them involved in the distribution of equipment, apparel and accessories for golf, are participating in the trade exhibit organized by the Golf Distributors Association of the Philippines.

Related businesses like turf hardware, travel, media, golf resorts, real estate and corporate giveaways are also in the show sponsored by Inquirer Golf, Rudy Project, Pixografx, and Swing Magazine.

There will be numerous activities as soon as the doors open on Friday. 7 all the way up to closing day on Sunday, Oct. 9, according to exhibit chair Rommel Baquial. Part of the Golf Show excitement are the hourly raffles as well as the promotional gimmicks of the exhibitors.

Expert members of the PTA on various fields of interest like turf care and maintenance, irrigation, tournament handling, rules and many more will refresh attendees on new trends and technologies in the various seminars slated for Saturday, Oct. 8.

Kart finals up Oct. 8-9

WILL Matteo Guidicelli of the Cebu Racing Group make it back-to-back or will Asian karting queen Michele Bumgarner regain her throne in the local scene? The answer will be known this weekend as Guidicille and Bumgarner battle for the Karter of the Year award in the championship round of the 2005 Shell Superkarting Series on Oct. 8-9 at the Carmona Circuit Philippines. Guidicelli, following his win in his hometown Cebu, wrested solo leadership in the premiere Intercon-A class with 338 points in this series. But that gave him not enough cushion as Bumgarner is just 12 points behind with 326 points to remain on track in her bid to regain the throne she won two years back.

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MTRCB RATING R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
THE LEGENDARY FILMMAKER BRINGS YOU HIS ULTIMATE ZOMBIE MASTERPIECE
THE DEAD SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH
GEORGE A. ROMERO'S
LAND OF THE DEAD
WWW.LANDOFTHEDEADMOVIE.NET
Solar Entertainment Corporation

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DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
For inquiries, call: 687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1	PERFECT MAN	1:05, 3:35, 6:05 8:35, 11:00	GP
2	DUBAI	1:05, 3:35, 6:05 8:35, 11:00	PG-13
3	TRANSPORTER 2	1:20, 3:45, 6:10 8:35, 11:00	PG-13
4	PERFECT CATCH	1:05, 3:35, 6:05 8:35, 11:00	GP

Araneta Center Leisure Guide

GATEWAY CINEPLEX 10
MOVIE-GOING LIKE NO OTHER
ONLY CINEPLEX IN THE COUNTRY FULL STADIUM SEATING COMPLETELY UNOBSTRUCTED VIEWS
ALL THEATERS WITH DOLBY DIGITAL EX ULTRA SOUND
WALL TO WALL SCREEN LARGEST CURVED SCREEN 70 FEET WIDE, 30 FEET HIGH ENJOY TRULY WORLD-CLASS STATE-OF-THE-ART MOVIE EXPERIENCE AT POPULAR PRICES!

CINEMA SCHEDULES
Gateway Cineplex 10 Level 4 Gateway Mall
ONLY P99 ADMISSION
P120 RESERVED SEATS
GLOBE PLATINUM P249 / P299
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL TICKETNET AT 911-5555

THE PERFECT MAN 1:00 / 3:35 / 6:10 / 8:45	GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA
DUBAI 11:55 / 12:20 / 2:10 / 2:30 / 4:25 / 4:40 / 6:40 / 6:50 / 8:55 / 9:10	THE PERFECT MAN 1:35 / 6:45 / 9:20
TRANSPORTER 2 12:30 / 2:30 / 5:10 / 7:10 / 9:10	LAND OF THE DEAD 1:00 / 3:00 / 5:00 / 7:00 / 9:00
CINDERELLA MAN 12:50 / 3:40 / 6:30 / 9:20	DARK WATER 12:20 / 2:30 / 4:40 / 6:50 / 9:00
THE DESCENT 1:20 / 4:00 / 6:40 / 9:20	PERFECT CATCH 12:20 / 2:30 / 4:40 / 6:50 / 9:00

ALI MALL CINEMAS

❶ DUBAI 11:05 / 1:20 / 3:35 / 5:50 / 8:05	❹ ONE MISSED CALL 2 12:10 R3 / 1:50 / 4:10 / 6:30 / 8:50
❷ TRANSPORTER 2 1:30 / 3:30 / 6:10 / 8:10	❺ BLADE OF THE ROSE 12:10 R3 / 1:50 / 4:10 / 6:30 / 8:50
❸ CONSTANT GARDENER 12:30 / 3:00 / 5:30 / 8:00	DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

ARANETA COLISEUM EVENTS

Oct 2 Sunday PBA OPENING CEREMONIES 4pm, RED BULL vs PUREFOODS 6pm
Oct 5 Wed COCA COLA vs GINEBRA 4:40 pm, STA LUCIA vs ALASKA 7:25 pm

CENTER EVENTS

SALE	Araneta Center Hoopla Sale ongoing until October 2. Up to 50% off on great shopping selections centerwide!
EXHIBITS	Negros Trade Fair now on its last day at Level 2 of Gateway Mall

LOG ON TO www.aranetacenter.net FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
6th floor Shangrila Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633.2227 / 6337851 loc. 171
1 (DOLBY) CINE EUROPA 8
2 (DOLBY) PERFECT MAN GP
3 (DOLBY) DUBAI
4 (DOLBY) TRANSPORTER 2 PG13
PREMIERE
(DOLBY) PERFECT CATCH GP

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (SDDS) DUBAI
2 (SDDS) DARK WATER
3 (DTS) THE DESCENT
4 (GOLD DTS) PERFECT MAN
5 (GOLD DOLBY) DUBAI
6 (GOLD SDDS) LAND OF THE DEAD
7 (GOLD DOLBY) THE TRANSPORTER-2
8 (DOLBY STEREO) ONE MISSED CALL
9 (DOLBY STEREO) BLADE OF THE ROSE
10 (DOLBY STEREO) LOVE STRUCK

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6963 or 72
1 (DOLBY) DUBAI
2 (DOLBY) PERFECT MAN
3 (DOLBY) TRANSPORTER 2
4 (DOLBY) PERFECT CATCH

CINEMA 2000
Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216
1 THE TRANSPORTER-2
2 THE DESCENT
3 DUBAI
4 LAND OF THE DEAD

Blue Wave MARQUINTON
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927
1 (DOLBY) DUBAI
2 (DOLBY) THE DESCENT
3 (DOLBY) THE TRANSPORTER-2
4 (DOLBY) CONSTANT GARDENER

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto tel 7334228
1 (DOLBY) LAND OF THE DEAD
2 THE DESCENT
3 RESERVED
4 THE TRANSPORTER-2
5 AGOS

MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 DUBAI
2 CONSTANT GARDENER
3 SOUND OF THUNDER
4 NENA INOSENTE

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 DUBAI
2 THE DESCENT
3 AGOS

Center Mall Cinema
Baguio Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)
1 DUBAI
2 THE CAVE

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) DUBAI
2 DARK WATER
3 (DTS EX) SOUND OF THUNDER
4 LOVE STRUCK

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 DUBAI
2 DUBAI
3 (DOLBY) DARK WATER
4 (DTS) SOUND OF THUNDER

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489
1 DUBAI
2 DUBAI
3 (DOLBY) THE CAVE
4 (DTS) RED EYE

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 DUBAI
2 LOVE STRUCK

CINEMA 2000 Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 DUBAI
2 (DTS) DUBAI
3 (DOLBY) THE BROTHERS GRIMM
4 DARK WATER

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 DUBAI
2 (DOLBY) DUBAI
3 (DTS) DARK WATER
4 THE BROTHERS GRIMM

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 SHAOLIN VS' STONE WARRIOR
2 DUBAI
3 (DOLBY) RED EYE

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 DUBAI
2 DUBAI
3 (DOLBY) LONGEST YARD
4 (DTS) DUKE OF HAZZARD

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 LONGEST YARD
2 DUBAI
3 (DOLBY) DUBAI

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) DREAM GIRLS
2 AGOS
3 IKA PITONG GLORIA
4 (DTS) LITTLE SHAOLIN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) DARK WATER
2 LOVE STRUCK
3 (DTS) DUBAI
4 AGOS
5 THE BROTHERS GRIMM

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 SHAOLIN VS' STONE WARRIOR
2 DUBAI
3 CINDERELLA MAN
4 DUBAI

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 AGOS
2 THE BROTHERS GRIM

starmall Movies www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 AGOS
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) DUBAI
5 THE DESCENT

METROPOLIS star www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 6433994
1 AGOS
2 LAND OF THE DEAD
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED
5 (DOLBY) THE DESCENT
6 DUBAI

starmall Movies www.clickthecity.com.ph
(LAS PINAS) tel. 8735004
1 (DOLBY) GHOST HOUSE
2

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

OPENS OCTOBER 12
FROM THE SPECIAL EFFECTS TEAM THAT GAVE YOU "THE LORD OF THE RINGS" COMES THE MOST VISUALLY STUNNING FANTASY EPIC OF THE YEAR !

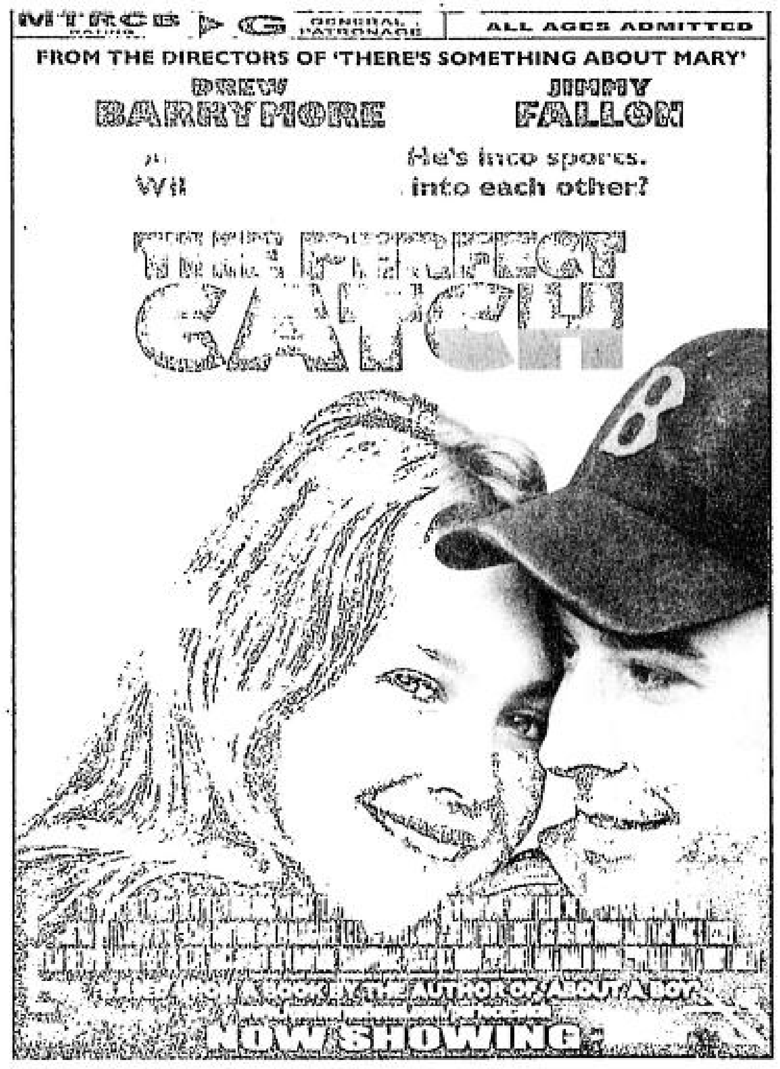
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2
THE ELEMENTAL MIGHT

Morales tops Italy grand touring race

BOLOGNA, ITALY—TOP FILIPINO DRIVER Renan Morales extended his racing expertise abroad in the 360 Madela Challenge-Alfa Romeo Grand Touring at the Florano Racetrack here, winning three trophies, including the championship in the GT Division of the speed festival.

Morales, who leads the Philippines National Touring Car Championships as well as the Road Racing Championships at the Batangas Racing Circuit, proved that he can win on any race course and with any racing machine.

The Asian Formula 3 standout topped the GT category with a flawless ride, ruling the premier division by driving an Alfa Romeo 147 Spider. Morales emerged runner-up in the Slalom division driving an Alfa Romeo 156 GT while placing third in the Drifting Division.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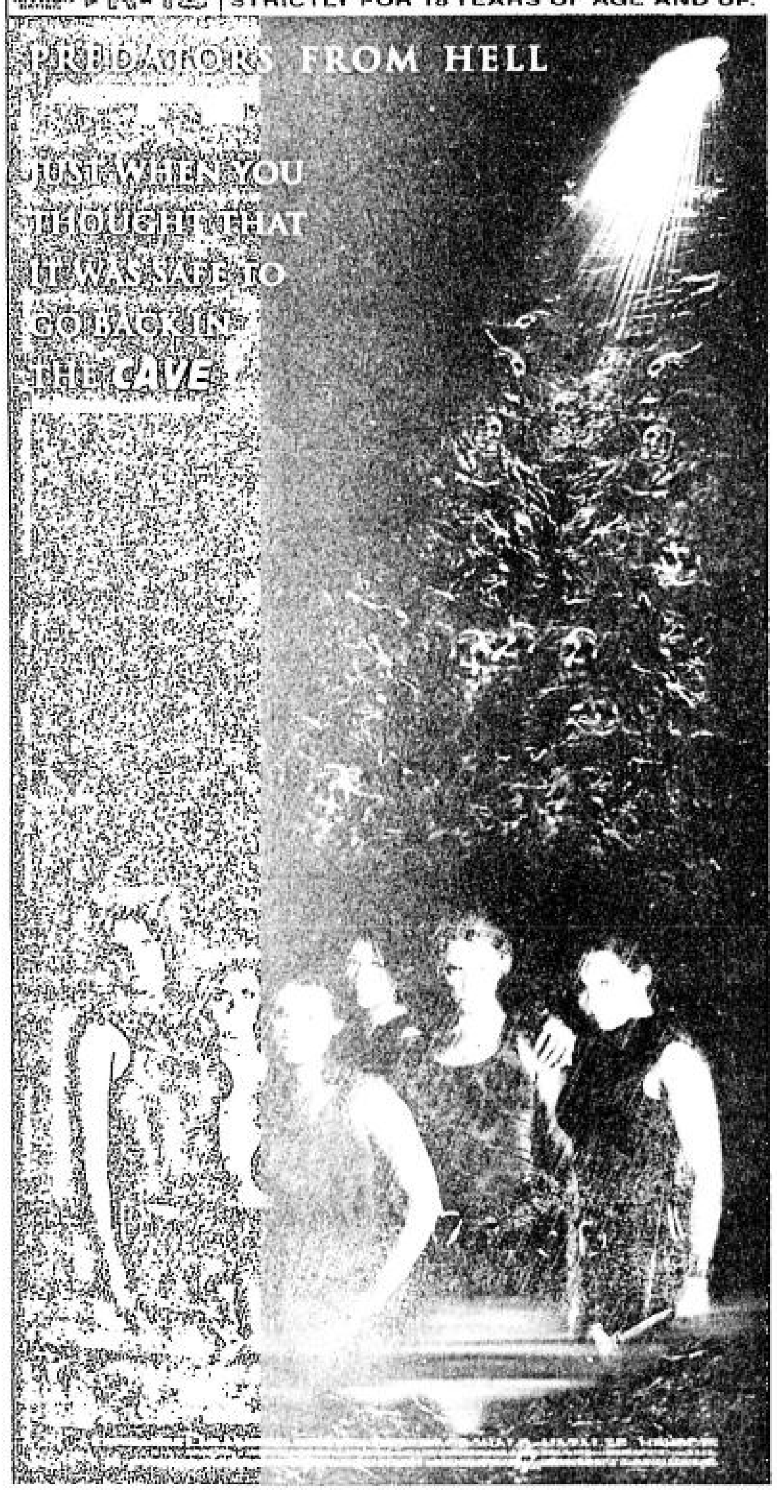
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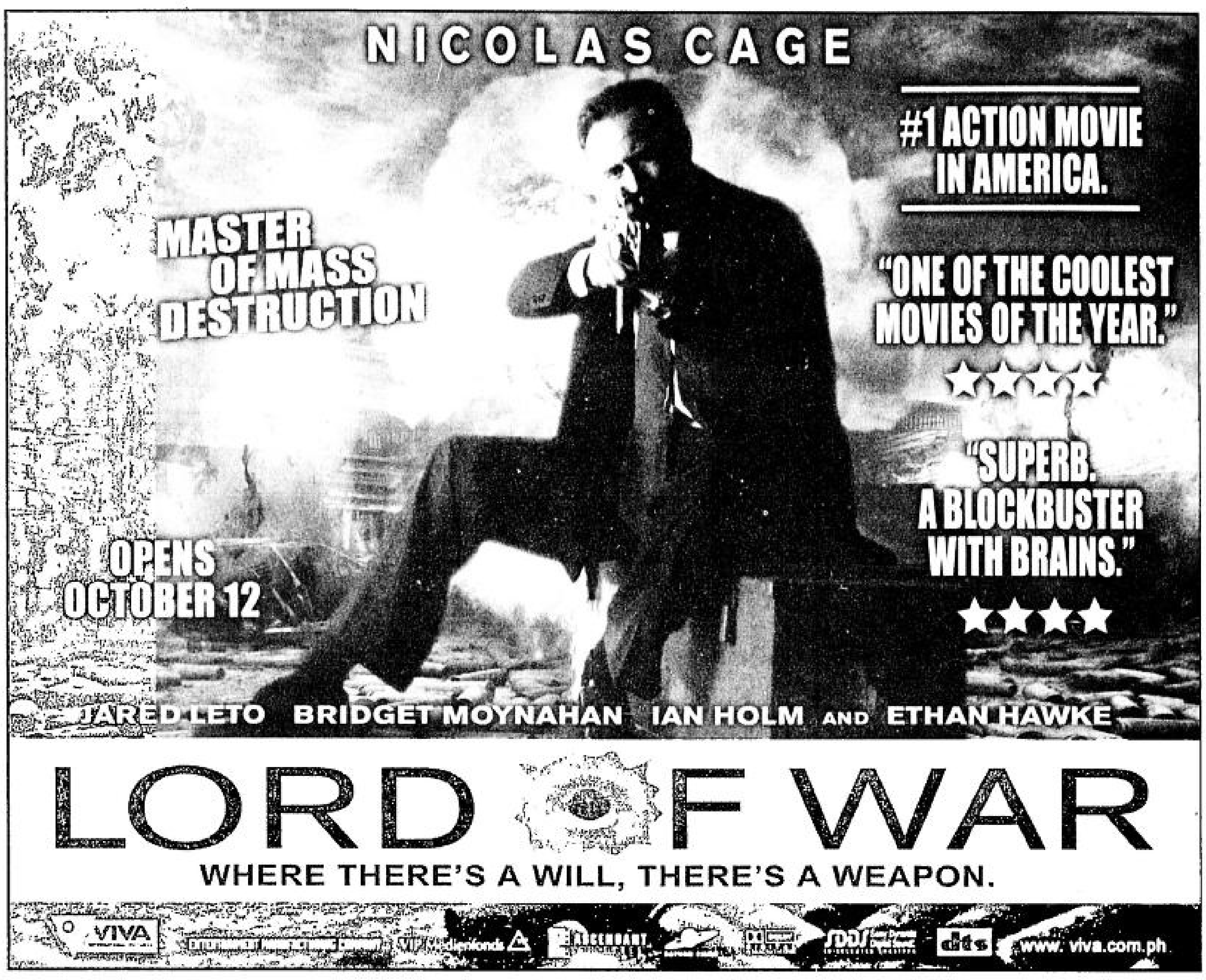
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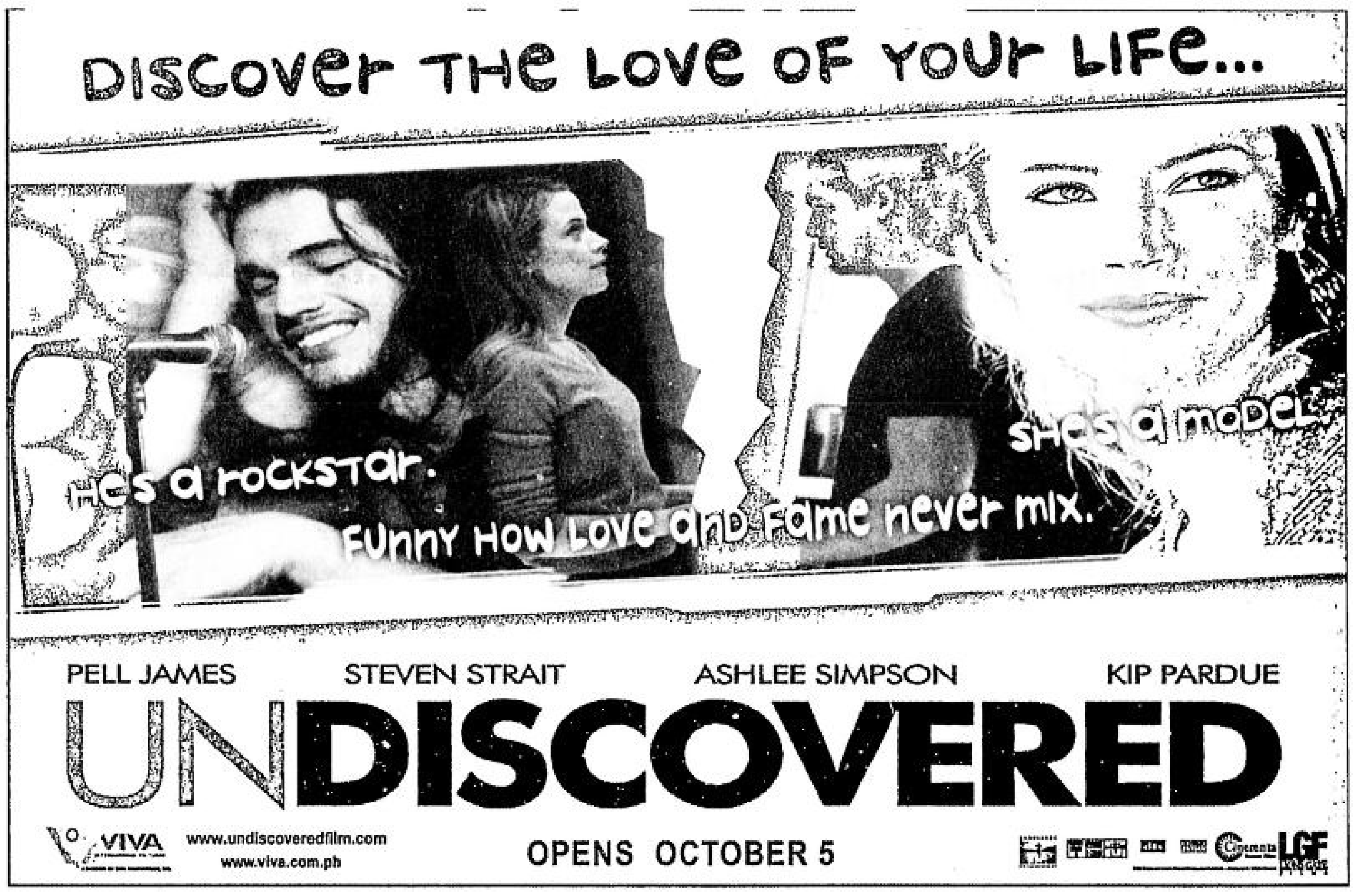
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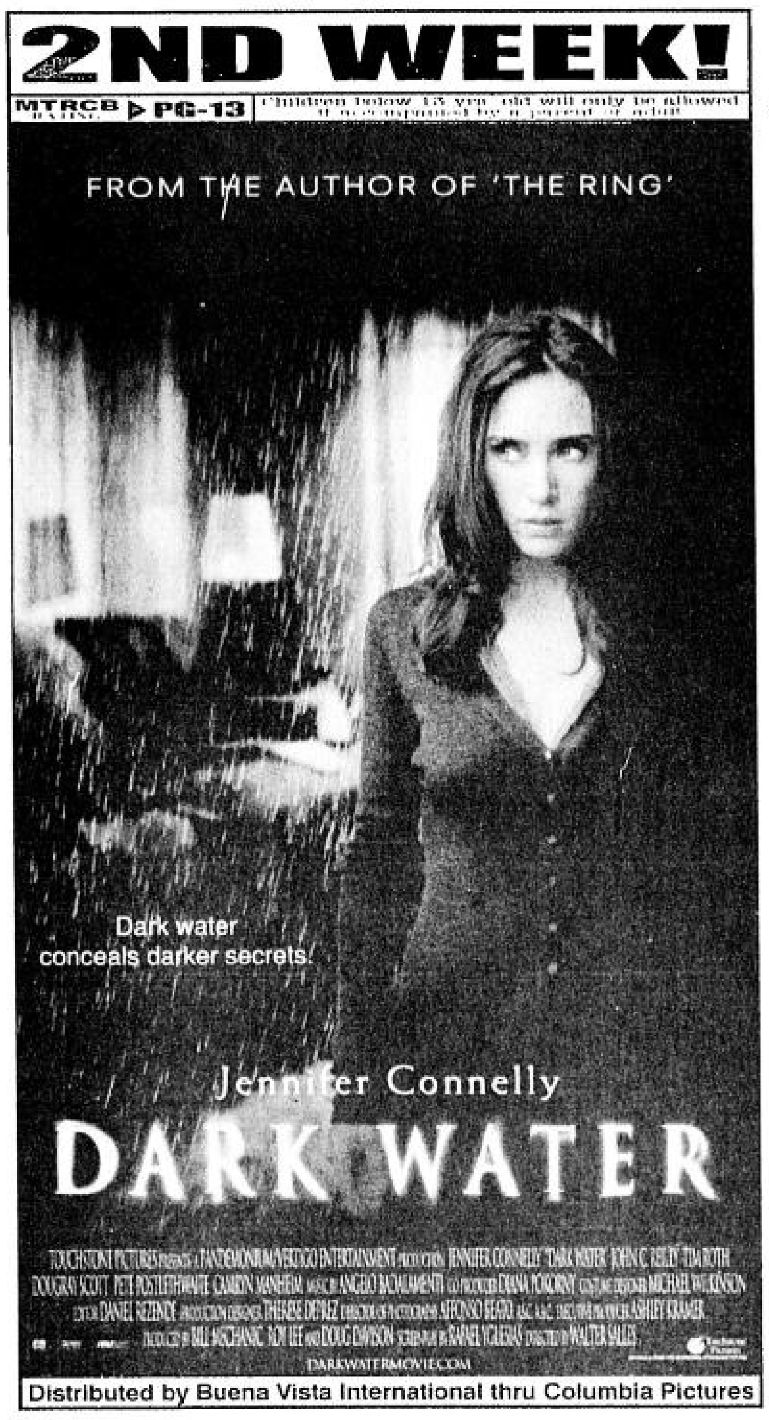
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Juvenile series turns wide open

By Edwin Villanueva, *Contributor*

THIS year's race for supremacy in the Juvenile Championship has suddenly turned wide open.

Unlike the previous series when Real Spicy emerged dominant, the 2005 staging is shaping up to be a toss-up among four, or possibly seven, talented 2-year-old gallopers.

Dixie the Younger and Pechanga appeared to have the edge among their batchmates but the outcome of the just-concluded second leg suddenly altered the landscape of the showdown among the future local track stars.

Manila's Gem upset Dixie the Younger, the pride and joy of the Trillana Stable, in the Juvenile Colts, while Special Edition did the same to Pechanga in the Juvenile Fillies in a pair of reversals that brought joy to *dehadistas* (longshot players) at the Santa Ana Park last Sunday.

"I think we're heading toward a very exciting race come the Juvenile Grand Championship in December. All of this year's entries are good," said chair Jimmy Dilag of the sponsoring Philippine Racing Commission.

The racing body has appropriated a pot of P1 million each in the first two legs, with the winners taking home P600,000. Breeders of the victorious runners were also given an incentive of P30,000.

While Dixie the Younger (Khozaam-Dixie Cup), Manila's Gem (Manila's Finest-Lady Ping), Special Edition (Conquistarose-Gold Edition) and Pechanga (Hezagone West-Flying Angel) have already strutted their wares, another prospective top challenger named Juggernaut loomed to add up to the list of protagonists.

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Race 5-1. Colombia Breeze 2. Hula Sunrise 3. Real Queen
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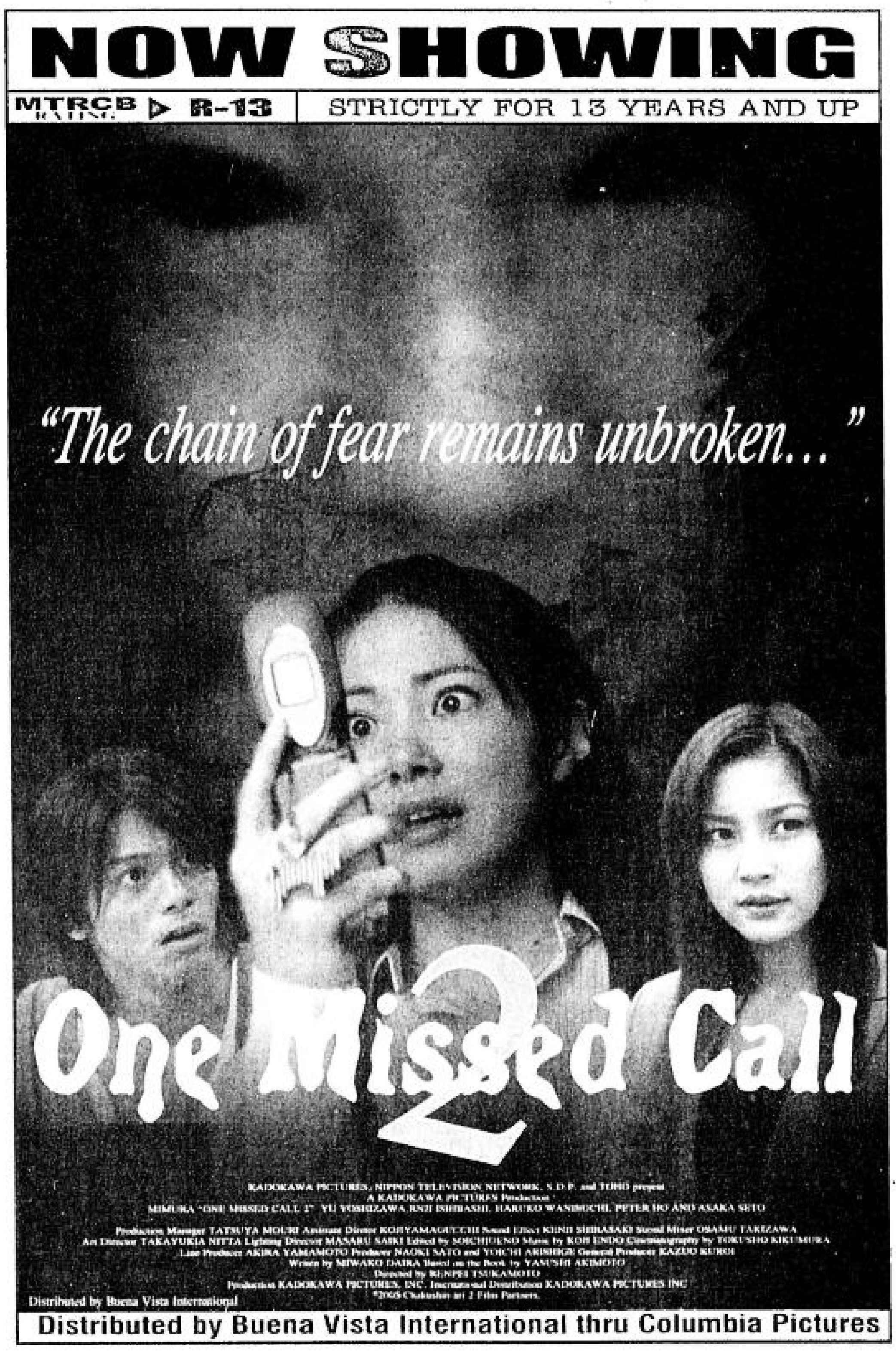
Race 8-1. Euphoria 2. All Ali Ali 3. Grand Fiesta 4. Virgin Island 5. Good Heart
Race 9-1. Transparent 2. Hello Junior 3. Mr. Lucas
Race 10-1. Princess Sarah 2. Fancy Dancer 3. Magical Surf 4. She Boom
Race 11-1. Divine Right 2. Red Phoenix 3. Sgt. Marangal
Race 12-1. Golden Link 2. Fiery Red 3.Control Freak 4. Sequoia
Race 13-1. Caden Dance 2. Sovereign Dancer 3. Miss Bobon 4. Secret Angel 5. Sure Pay 6. Besame Mucho

Titlists join JVC tourney

WINNERS of the recent JVC regional badminton championships will join top colleges and universities in the JVC Interscholastic Championships set Nov. 17-23 at PowerSmash Badminton Center and Glorietta Activity Center. Holy Angel University of Pampanga, University of Visayas, University of San Jose Recoletos-Cebu, University of Mindanao, Ateneo de Davao and Iloilo Doctors College, which topped their respective tournaments last summer, banner the provincial teams expected to see action. The organizing IMG said registration is free and is ongoing. Entry forms are available on the www.jvcbadminton.com. For details, contact 894-2995, 0917-8050702, 0917-8050601, 725-2568 and 0917-5288970.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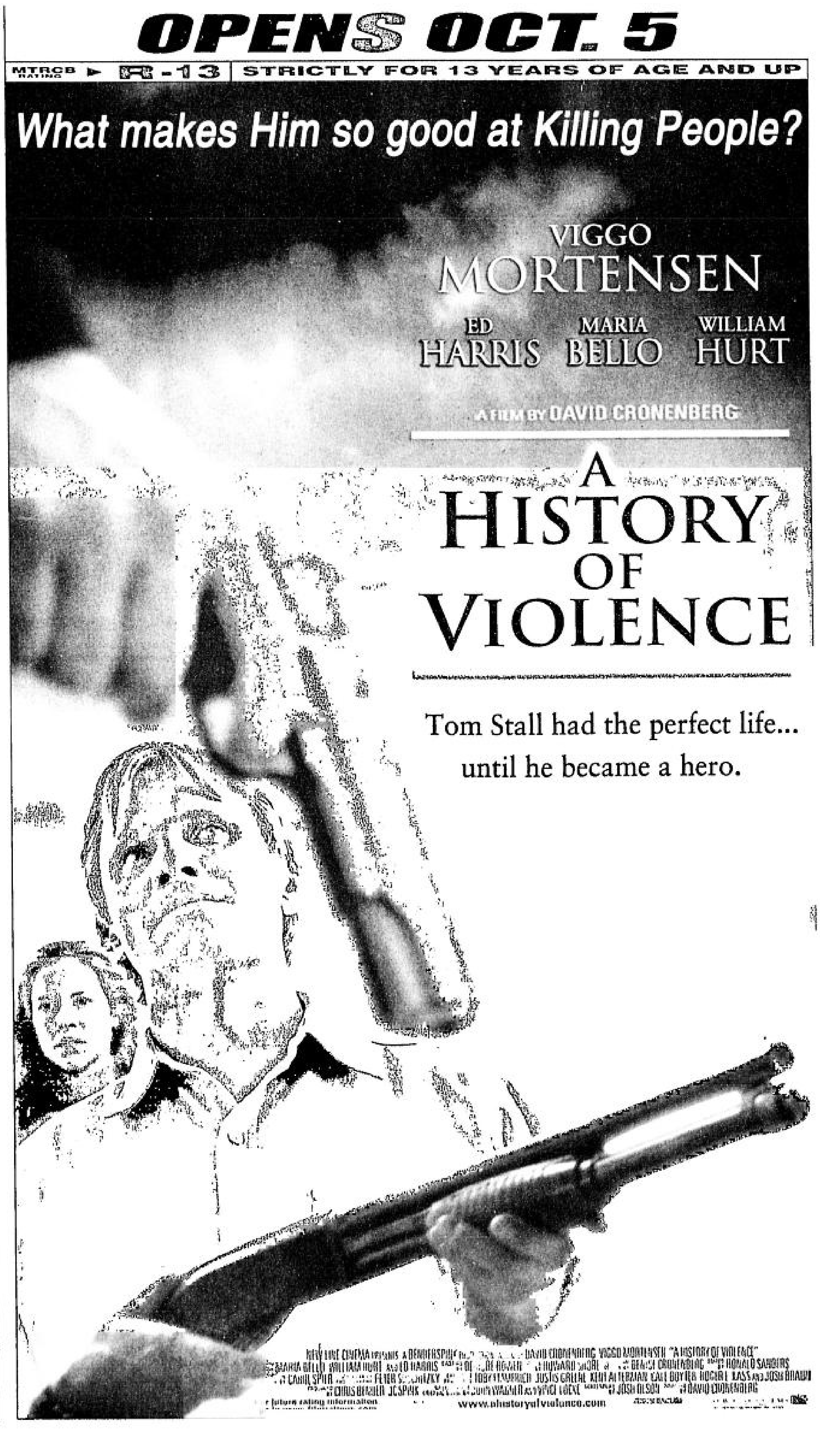
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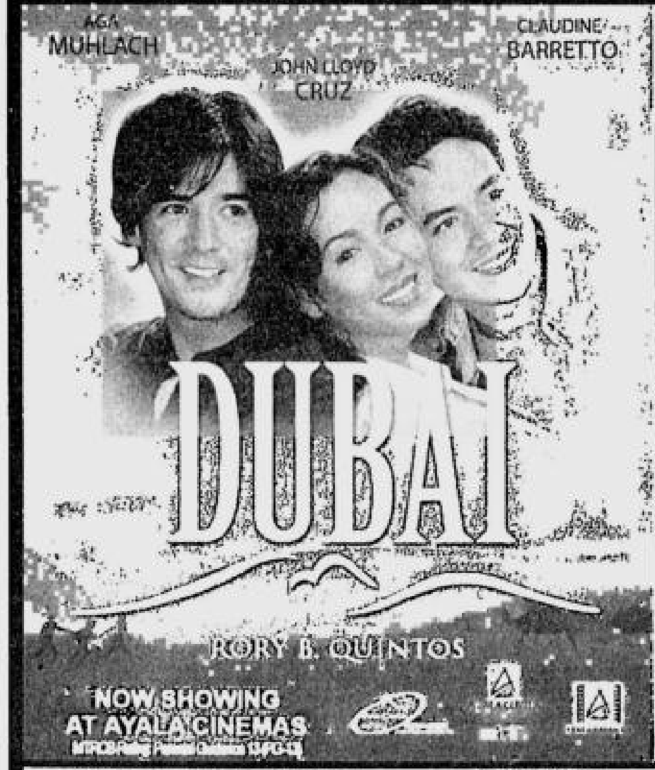

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3 BLADE OF THE ROSE
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

4 LAND OF THE DEAD
1:05 3:15 5:25 7:35 9:45

5 THE PERFECT MAN
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

6 ONE MISSED CALL 2
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

7 WILD SIDE
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

8 LOVESTRUCK
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

9 DARK WATER
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10 DEUCE BIGALOW
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1 THE TRANSPORTER 2 10:20 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:25 9:50

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ENTERTAINMENT

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Maui vows she'll back off

... if boyfriend Bryan Revilla ever shows any discomfort about her being a bold star

By Nini Valera

BOLD ACTRESS MAUI TAYLOR said she would back off from Bryan Revilla if she felt he was no longer comfortable about her job.

"So far he hasn't said anything about it," Maui told INQUIRER Entertainment last Friday. "I guess he understands."

Maui, 23, said she and Bryan, 18, were friends long before they started seeing each other exclusively.

"It's not like we just met," she pointed out. "[But] we got together only toward the end of August."

Their five-year age difference did not bother her, she said.

Asked how serious the relationship was, Maui said: "I [used to] date several men at one time. [Now that I am] with Bryan, I don't do that. He doesn't date other women, either."

Lani Mercado, Bryan's mother, said in a phone interview on Friday that she wanted the best for her eldest son.

"As parents, we can only guide our children," said Lani. "I told Bryan that he should set priorities, and on top of the list [should be] his studies. I hope they are not serious [yet]. I reminded him of what happened to Jolo."

Jolo, 17, Lani's second child, had a son last year with Grace Adriano, 16, daughter of Rosanna Roces.

Lani met Maui for the first time last Sept. 25 during Sen. Bong Revilla's birthday party in Cavite. She said her son's girlfriend was "charming."

Maui admitted she was nervous about meeting Lani. "[But] they were all nice to me."

She denied buying Bryan expensive gifts, as Lani said earlier by way of pointing out that Maui didn't seem like "a *bilmoko* girl," or a gold digger.

Maui renewed her management contract with Viva Entertainment recently.

"They have plans of making a movie for me with Katya Santos," she said. "I'm looking forward to that."

ROUNDUP

Hollywood 'bag ladies'

JULIA Roberts

CAMERON Diaz

BERLIN—Hollywood actresses Julia Roberts and Cameron Diaz look like bag ladies compared with the glamorous stars of the past, fashion designer Valentino said in an interview with a German newspaper published this week.

"Today you see Julia Roberts and Cameron Diaz running around looking unkempt in jogging trousers, they look like bag ladies, like homeless people. In the past you never saw that," Valentino was quoted as saying by weekly paper Die Zeit.

"In the past, actresses had to commit in their contracts to appear in public like stars when they left their homes," added the Italian, who dresses actress Gwyneth Paltrow and is often seen with her at red-carpet events like the Venice film festival.

Valentino made his name in the 1960s and designed the wedding dress worn by Jacqueline Kennedy for her marriage to Greek shipping tycoon Aristotle Onassis. *Reuters*

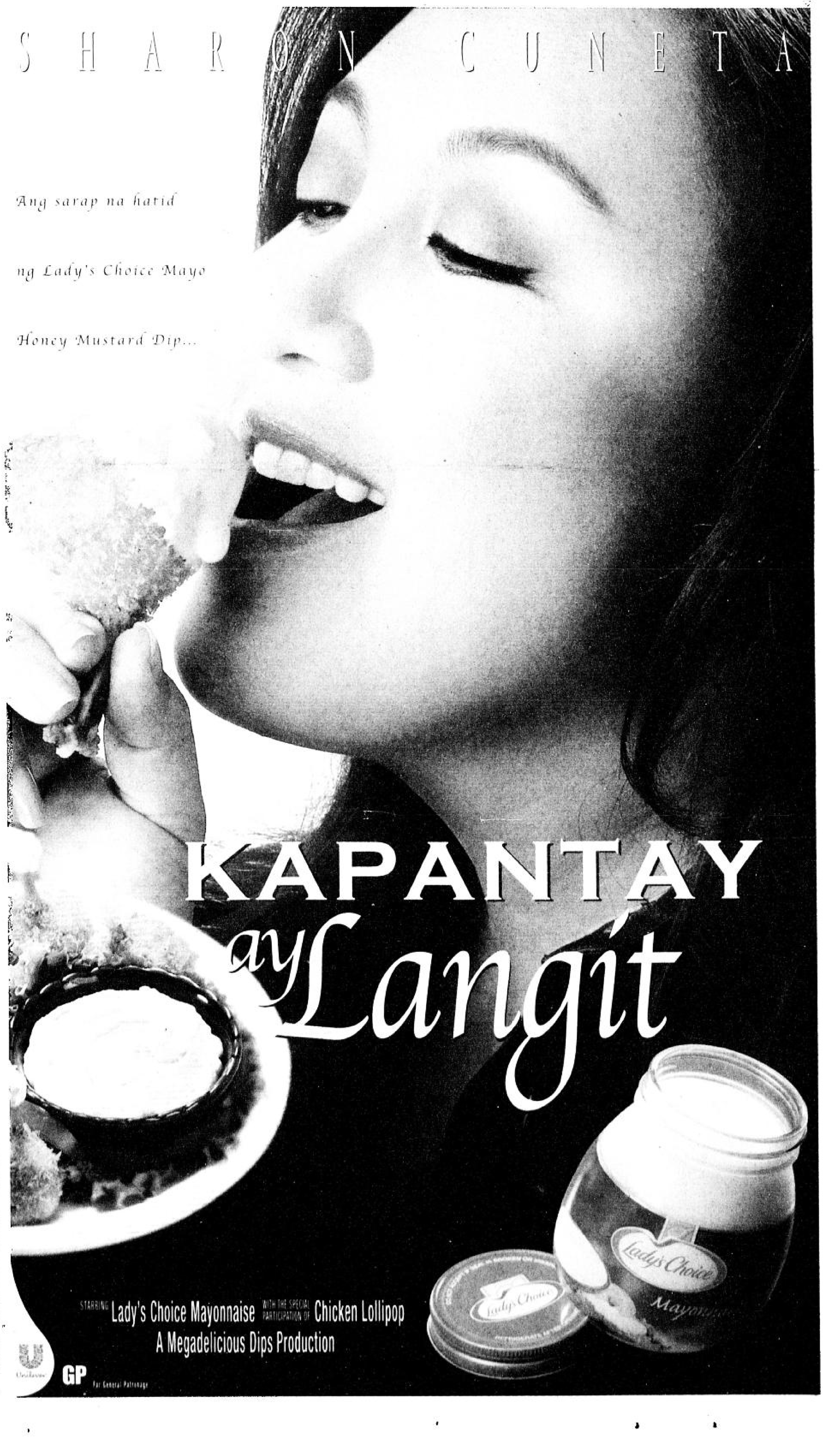
Festival co-producers

FOR the second year in a row, the Metro Manila Development Authority and the Manila Broadcasting Co. are co-producing the Metro Manila Film Festival Philippines in December. Under a Memorandum of Agreement recently signed by MBC and MMDA, MBC will collaborate with the MMFFP executive committee to mount a series of promo activities, including mall tours and an awareness campaign in residential areas. These are in addition to the traditional parade of stars on Christmas Eve and the grand awards night. Present at the MOA signing were MBC president Ruperto Nicdao Jr. and sales director Santi Elizalde. MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando, Esperidion Laxa and Boots Anson-Roa representing the festival execom.

Star for Charlize

LOS ANGELES—Oscar-winning South African movie star Charlize Theron now has her own star on Hollywood's glittering Walk of Fame. The platinum-blonde star of the 2003 serial killer movie "Monster" turned out for the ceremony on Hollywood Boulevard where she was awarded the 2,291st bronze-edged star on the famous pavement. She was accompanied by her mother, Gerda. The ex-model and ballerina was the first South African to win an Oscar when she won the Best Actress Academy Award for her startling performance as US prostitute and serial killer Aileen Wuornos in the low-budget "Monster." In her next film, "North Country," Theron stars as a miner who won the nation's first major successful sexual harassment case. It is scheduled to be released in North America on Oct. 21. *AFP*

AS HER mother Gerda steadies her, Charlize Theron takes the first "official" step on her star. AP



Swing-out sisters

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Additional photos courtesy of Terri, Laly and Gus Aldeguer

Terri and Laly Aldeguer—remember these cool chicks?—are dancing to a new beat

IN THE SWINGING 1960S and '70s, the Aldeguer Sisters were the coolest chicks on the boob tube.

With their big hair and bold moves, TV's prime Sister Act popularized a slew of sassy steps.

"Our signature move was the head throw, with matching open mouth," volunteered Terri Aldeguer.

Terri, who is visiting Manila with new talents, the Banares Brothers, couldn't help chuckling at the memory.

Her sister Laly, who e-mailed her answers from their current base, Los Angeles, was just as detailed in her recollection. "We sported mini-skirts and knee-high boots, which became the trend. Many people, when they run into us, do head throws with open mouths!"

BIG hair for the head throws

Even as tots, the sisters danced up a storm at every Aldeguer family gathering.

Laly: I was dancing at age 5.

Terri: We took ballet, jazz and Hawaiian lessons in Bacolod and in the United States.

While on vacation in Manila as teeners, they were "discovered" and ended up debuting in a Tancho Tique commercial.

Laly: It was produced by Philip Yago.

Terri: Directed by Maning Rivera. It was used as the opening and closing of "The Tancho Tique Show" hosted by Eddie Mercado and Vilma Valera on ABS-CBN.

That 60-seconder served as the spark that sent the sisters' career off to the stratosphere.

Terri: We got invited to lots of TV shows. We were regulars on "Stop, Look, and Listen," "The WOW Generation," "Young Image with Jeanne Young" and "An Evening with Pilita."

Laly: We signed an exclusive contract with Genie Lopez of ABS-CBN.

Not even martial law and the closure of ABS-CBN stopped the sisters from swinging and swaying.

Laly: We produced our own show, "Dance Tour with the Aldeguer Sisters," on Channel 4, for the National Media Production Center under Greg Cendaña. Also, '"The Aldeguer Sisters at the..." which took us to different locations. We were on television for 18 years.

Away from the telly, they headlined countless road shows and concerts—most of them with their brother, Gus, who also made a name for himself as stage actor with SRO Philippines.

Needless to say, the sisters' long stint in the biz yielded a treasure of memories.

Terri: In our concert tours abroad, we would often be asked to memorize songs in foreign languages!

That was because they invariably performed for VIPs.

Laly: In front of kings and queens, soldiers and prisoners. We have a hundred and one memorable experiences. But the most unforgettable was a show in Washington DC in 1986, when we were given a standing ovation by the diplomatic corps.

Terri: We also acted in a movie with Jun Aristorenas and Ramon Zamora. That was fun.

YESTERDAY

Now, the Aldeguer Sisters are bequeathing their wealth of knowledge to neophyte performers.

In Manila, they put up the Aldeguer Sisters Dance Studio (along with a chain of fabric stores) in the '70s and '80s. After relocating to Los Angeles in 1998, they established the Aldeguer Sisters Performing Arts Center.

Among the teachers are Romy Madrilejos, formerly of The Tux, Dianne Serrano, formerly of The Nailclippers; and Paolo Alcedo, formerly of Powerdance.

Terri: It's like passing the torch.

Laly: We want to promote high standards in the performance arts.

They are placing their bets on Fil-Am discoveries EJ and Brendon Banares.

Terri: EJ is a balladeer, Brendon is a hip-hop dancer.

Laly: They are focused, talented and very passionate about fulfilling their dreams. I know they will make it.

Just as the Aldeguer Sisters were in their teens.

The gals don't miss the spotlight one bit—devoted as they are to their new roles as mentors and managers.

Still, the lure of the stage can be irresistible.

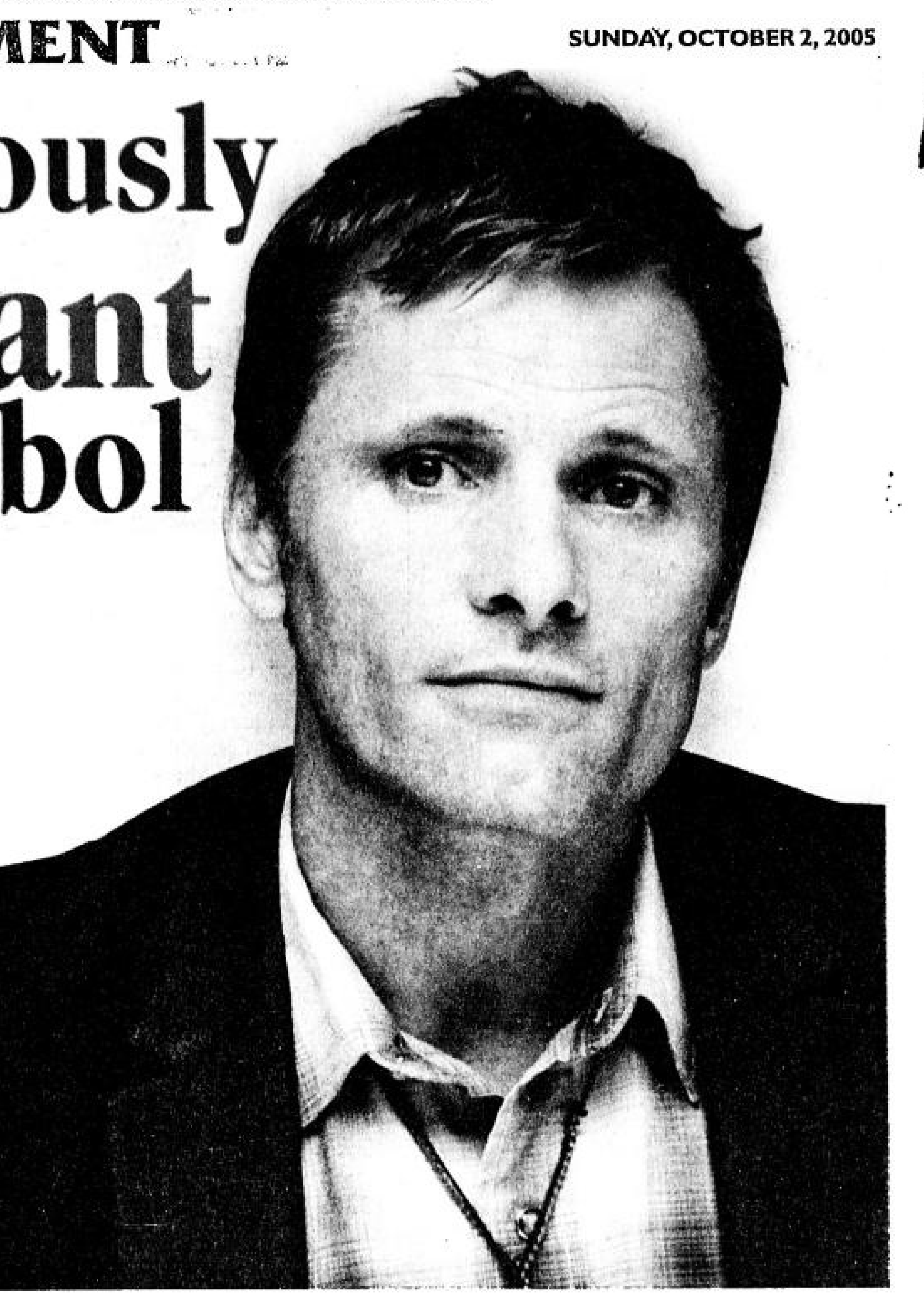
Last November, they shared the stage with young performers, including the Banares Brothers, in "The Aldeguer Sisters in Motion" in Los Angeles.

Terri: We had to lose a lot of weight for that show.

Laly: It was great to know we could still do high kicks. We hope to bring that show to the Philippines.

MANAGER Terri with the Banares brothers RUDY ESPERAS

Viggo-rously reluctant sex symbol



ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

NEW YORK—FIRST OF ALL, RUN, don't walk, and watch "A History of Violence." It is one of the best films of the year.

There. Now we can be trivial. Here's what the film's star, **Viggo Mortensen**, said when asked by my colleague about being labeled a sex symbol and the attention from femmes that came with it: "A gentleman doesn't talk about those things in depth."

On a day in New York that was threatening to rain, Viggo—forever Aragorn to "Lord of the Rings" devotees—was shy, soft-spoken, and yet he gave long and thoughtful answers to journalists' questions. When he smiled and broke his serious mien, he revealed small teeth like a boy's. The green jacket that he wore reflected the artiste (he paints, takes beautiful photos, writes poems and composes music) in the man—it takes an adventurous, creative spirit like Viggo to opt for that color instead of the safe, boring black or brown. A necklace with a pendant of San Lorenzo de Almagro, the Argentinean soccer team he's a fan of, hung over his checkered shirt.

With the blue eyes and cleft chin seen up close, Viggo is more imposing onscreen. It's a tribute to him as an actor that, up there on the big screen, he registers more strongly. In "A History of Violence," this sheer physicality comes to the fore as he plays a seemingly simple owner of a diner in a small town until several thugs arrive and say that he is not who he claims to be. Do not let the formal or heavy sounding title put you off. "A History" is a gripping drama of a family upended by a mistaken identity—or maybe the men in black are telling the truth.

Directed by **David Cronenberg** ("The Fly," "Dead Ringers"), "A History" was received with a rapturous standing ovation in last May's Cannes Film Festival. This is Viggo's best performance to date, but his co-stars, **Ed Harris**, **William Hurt**, the sensuous **Maria Bello** and a young unknown, **Ashton Holmes**, who plays Viggo's son, are also terrific.

Viggo and Maria figure in one of the rawest, most compelling lovemaking scenes we've seen in recent cinema. And it's not because this intimate sequence bares a lot of flesh. It's because of the conflicting emotions that the two actors express while engaging in a sudden, confusing sex right by the house stairs. I just had to ask Viggo about filming this scene (read below).

Born to a Danish father and an American mother, the 46-year-old actor grew up in Argentina, and then in New York. He is divorced from punk singer **Exene Cervenka** of X, the mother of his teenage son, **Henry**, who also acts and is into music.

Below are excerpts of our press con with Viggo.

Are you comfortable about being dubbed a sex symbol? Do female fans come on to you?

I think the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy was such an overwhelming success that every single person who played the principal characters in that movie, and even some of the very small characters, have gotten an unusual amount of attention. With that sometimes comes not unflattering attention of the kind you're talking about.

But I think it's not a strange thing in this business. I don't have much to complain about, although sometimes it can be weird. As for people coming on to me, I think a gentleman doesn't talk about those things in depth.

Your lovemaking scene with Maria Bello at the stairs is one of the rawest and most compelling in recent cinema. Would you say it was a unique experience?

Yes. For a scene like that to work, you need trust. We had a lot of trust in each other. Maria was very brave and willing to do the work. David created an atmosphere that felt relatively safe. But no matter what, you're going to be uncomfortable doing a scene like that.

WITH "History" co-star Maria Bello

But David . . . communicates so well about every scene that, before we start shooting . . . everybody is clear about the structure. So then you can fill it with interesting behavior and take chances.

Everything about this movie, whether it was the fight scenes or sex scenes, we knew quite well what was expected. And within that structure, we were free to do anything. We wanted to try things not just for ourselves and for the story but also for David. Because of the way he is as a person and the respectful, comfortable atmosphere he creates, you want to please him. You want to help him tell his story. That's the best possible working environment. I've never had a better one than on this movie.

What do you think of man's fascination with violence?

It's something that we recognize as an impulse or a feeling. We can relate to it, especially because it's in the hands of David Cronenberg and not of a less intelligent or a less subtle director. In this film, you see violence in very small ways, in the daily mundane . . . interaction of the family. Violence or the potential for violence or struggle is part of life. There's violence to being born.

This is as much an anti-violence movie as a movie about violence. To me it says on one level that people, as opposed to other animals, have the ability to reason. They have the ability to reject violence, to say no, or to struggle to reject it, which my character does.

Are you the reasoning or the impulsive kind?

I'd rather reason; I'm not a fan of getting into physical fights or even into verbal or emotional, stressful situations. But it happens. I'm human. I can get angry and raise my voice. I can say things that I later regret.

You seem to be a gentle, peace-loving man. But your job often requires you to portray doing very violent things. Do these scenes give you a thrill because you can act out what you can't do in real life?

On some small level, because yes, I've not ever killed somebody with my bare hands and I hope I never do—I don't know that I could really—there's something interesting about it. I don't know if it's enjoyment, but it's interesting. But I don't get any more or less satisfaction from playing a scene like that than it is to do a love scene or a dialogue scene.

When you were 11, you had to leave your life in Argentina and go to New York and start over. Did that prepare you to portray the identity problems that your character faces?

It's possible. It's also possible that it helped me develop a shortcut just as an actor in general, to try to see something from another point of view. If as a child you move from one culture to another with its own sets of values or points of view of the world, it gives you an extra advantage to explore that or maybe an interest in exploring it.

You've been called a renaissance man. Do you compartmentalize your life—actor, poet, photographer, composer, book publisher?

I don't really separate them. To me, it's basically all the same thing in a way. It's about telling stories. And the way you tell stories, at least the way I do, whether it's taking a picture or painting or writing a story or a poem, or working with a group of people to tell a movie story, is, I observe. I take in what I see and I process it and then I put it out there.

[As for] publishing other people's work, words and photographs, I have definitely enjoyed being able to help someone present his work. It's not so many books that we make. It's a small company called Perceval Press.

What's your daily life like? How do you find the time to pursue your other interests?

These days, I'm a little busy. But I steal moments here and there. You don't have to take a picture of something. You don't have to write about it. Or even talk about it. You can just appreciate that it's there. If I don't have moments once in a while where I try to do nothing and think about nothing, so that things can come in, then I'm not very effective in that way.

That's why I like to spend time by myself sometimes, even just to go and see a movie. Or go on a camping trip. It's nice to share it with people. But if you go with someone, let's say you're going for a walk in the woods, you are seeing their point of view. Which can be interesting. And you're discussing it. So you're putting things out.

But if you were by yourself walking through the woods or seeing a movie or whatever it is, it's all coming in. That's why I like to spend time by myself and recharge.

(E-mail the columnist at rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com.)

'SOP' Awards a salute to show's outstanding guests

By Marinel R. Cruz

"THIS AWARDS SHOW IS A SALUTE TO GREAT local artists. 'SOP' would not be the No. 1 Sunday variety show today without their support," said "SOP" program manager Hazel Abonito.

The show's 2005 Music Awards ceremony will be held at noon today at the UP Film Theater in Diliman, Quezon City, and aired live on GMA 7.

Abonito explained how the "SOP" creative group came up with the nominees for a total of eight categories: "We asked radio stations which artists were consistently on their Top 10 lists. We also logged on to various chat rooms and asked members which groups or artists they liked."

An artist or a band should have performed on "SOP" at least once in order to be nominated. "We also considered how well 'SOP' fared in the ratings when the [artist or group guested]," Abonito said.

The winners will be determined by the number of text votes from viewers. The nominated artists got to promote themselves by appearing on "SOP" and other GMA 7 shows.

Nominees for Viewer's Choice Artist of the Year, the top award, are Sugarfree, Hale, MYMP and Bamboo.

More categories

Other categories: Song of the Year—"The Day You Said Goodnight" by Hale, "Stay" by Cueshe, "I Know" by Yasmien Kurdi and "Hallelujah" by Bamboo; Best New Age Novelty—"Pasaway" by J Brothers, "Amoy ng Papa" by Sexbomb, "Sundo't Hatid" by Kaye and the Boxers, and "Nakaka" by Masculados;

Stand-out Rap—"I Must be Free" by Salbakuta, "Best Friends" by Dice and K9, "Doon Lang" by 3yodorobo and "Kahit Bata Pa Ako" by Aikee; Strictly Alternative—"Hanggang Kailan" by Orange and Lemons, "Hari ng Sablay" by Sugarfree, "Sigê" by Six Cycle Mind and "Hallelujah" by Bamboo;

Breakthrough Recording Artist—Hale for "The Day You Said Goodnight," Cueshe for "Stay," Yasmien Kurdi for "I Know," and Jonalyn Viray for "Close to Where You Are";

Revive '05—"Maling Akala" by Brownman Revival, "Tell Me Where It Hurts" by MYMP, "Panalangin" by Nyoy Volante and "All I Need" by Side A;

Maximum Dance Blast—"Shake Your Booty" as performed by Retrospect, "Joyride" by Jacque Estevez, "Sumayaw Sumunod" by Sexbomb, and "Bop Bop" by Aryana.

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'Brother' of all CDs

SPIN CITY

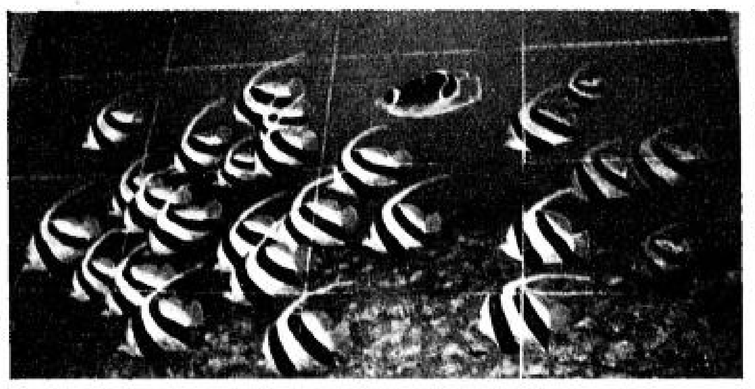
FROM THE CONTROVERSIAL TV REALITY show, "Pinoy Big Brother," a positive result: "Pinoy Ako," a 14-track compilation featuring music by some of the top bands today:

"Humanda Ka" by Sandwich, "Gusto Na Kitang Makita" by Session Road, "Pangarap" and "Someday" by Barbie, "Huwag Ka Nang Umiyak" by True Faith.

Also, "Bye Bye Na" by Rico Blanco of Rivermaya, "This Guy's in Love with You Pare" by Chito Miranda of Parokya ni Edgar, "Kailanpaman" by Kevin Roy of Razorback.

Kevin Roy also has a duet with Cooky Chua of Color It Red, "Jam." Dong Abay of Yano and Pan appear in the song "Laklak," a collaboration with rapper Gloc-9.

The title track is, of course, by Orange & Lemons, the official theme of the ABS-CBN series.



ERNIE GARCIA GOES WILD

In 1999, actor-singer Ernie Garcia—the "Bold King" himself—surprised everybody when he mounted his first painting exhibit on wildlife. As early as then, however, he was already experimenting with what he believed was an exciting concept: painting on tiles. "I first tried it on my bathroom wall," he recalls. "It didn't fade even after six years. So I thought of doing it on a bigger scale. Tiles on tabletops and dividers. Tile murals for the living room, garden or atrium ..." Thus, he put together a new collection which he called "Painting on Tiles." Before he could schedule yet another exhibit, though, some of the pieces were sold. So now it's back to the workshop for the artist, who'd really rather be called a "hobbyist." He may be reached via ernie_garcia@yahoo.com.

The miracle oil for health, beauty and strength now comes with flavors

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250 mL
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TheraHerb VCO
Add flavor to life.
Goes down smoother for health, beauty and strength.
SPLASH PHARMACEUTICAL CORPORATION
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Add Flavor to Life!

TheraHerb ***Bulletin***

The Philippine's first Flavored VCO Bulletin

Just a month after its major launch, Theraherb flavored Virgin Coconut Oil is starting to become one of the most sought after health products in the archipelago. With all the healthy benefits—lowers risk of heart diseases, helps control diabetes, supports the immune system, promotes weight loss, helps prevent premature skin ageing, aids in preventing osteoporosis, and may even delay the effects of HIV—there is no way one would resist this miracle oil especially now that Theraherb VCOs come in delightful flavors of banana, corn, and jackfruit.

From Luzon to Mindanao, from print to airwaves, from big supermarkets to community stores—people are now feeling the presence of Theraherb flavored VCOs.

Theraherb Flavored Virgin Coconut Oil Hits Major Retail Outlets!

Now it is more convenient to get a hold of Theraherb flavored VCOs as Splash Pharmaceutical Corporation recently inked agreements with major retail stores to serve as channels for their products.

"We want more people to experience the health benefits of Theraherb flavored VCO. Now, people would not have to wait for major trade fairs or go to specialty stores just to be able to get their supply of VCOs," said Jorel Buhay, AVP for Trade Marketing at Splash Pharmaceutical Corporation.

Some of these outlets include SM Supermarket, Mercury Drug, HBC House of Beauty Exclusives, Robinsons Supermarket, Big R, Landmark, Mansons, Puregold, Rose Pharmacy, Southstar Drug, and Gaisano Malls, among others.

Health on Air

A woman distorting her face in disgust of the traditional VCO taste. A weightlifter who could not raise his arm to bring a spoonful of VCO into his mouth. An old lady who almost threw up because of the icky aftertaste of the traditional VCO. Sounds familiar?

By this time, you have probably heard or seen the Theraherb VCO's radio and TV commercials aired during primetime blocks in the country's leading broadcast stations. The message of these witty commercials is clear: efforts to be healthy should be a delightful experience! People do not have to torture themselves with the undesirable taste of the traditional VCO just to be able to get the nourishing benefits of this miracle oil!

"We think that most people could relate to the unpleasant experiences of taking VCO. But the good news is, Theraherb flavored VCO is now here and people do not have to go through that tormenting experience anymore," says Ernest Perez, AVP for Consumer Marketing of Splash Pharmaceutical Corporation.

Have a taste of life's simple pleasures!

Are you intrigued about the delightful taste of Theraherb's Virgin Coconut Oil? Satisfy your curiosity and have a taste of Theraherb flavored VCO by visiting Theraherb VCO booths to be located at selected retail stores nationwide starting October. Sample the goodness of this natural food supplement that comes in banana, corn, jackfruit, and original flavors.

Sampling venues may include SM Supermarket, HBC House of Beauty Exclusives, Landmark, Robinsons, Mansons, Mercury Drug, Southstar Drug, Gaisano Malls, and Rose Pharmacy, among others. Aside from the VCO, Splash also offers a wide range of nutraceuticals under the Theraherb brand that includes products for specific health concerns. Other products now available in the market are SUGARITE, JOINTAIDE, KIDNEYAIDE, and CHOLESTRITE. Like the VCO, these products are made of natural medicinal herbs and plants that are recommended for supplementation to consumers' daily health needs.

Health on Print:

Did you know that regular intake on Virgin Coconut Oil can help in losing weight?

Virgin coconut oil belong to a special group of fats called the medium-chain triglycerides (MCT), which, unlike other fats, provide an instant source of energy and boosts one's metabolism.

In his book Eat Fat, Look Thin: A Safe and Natural Way to Lose Weight Permanently, Dr. Bruce Fife, explains that most fats, after digestion, circulate in the bloodstream contributing to the body's fat cells. MCT in coconut oil, however, do not. They are used by the body as an immediate source of fuel and, therefore, do not circulate in the bloodstream like other fats. They produce energy, not body fat.

"Their ability to produce energy is so effective," says Fife, "that after eating a meal containing MCT, your metabolism is shifted into a higher gear and you feel a surge of energy." Because of this, coconut oil or MCT are now being added to many commercial sports drinks and energy bars to help people, especially athletes, to manage weight and enhance exercise performance.

Cinemanila presents acclaimed foreign films

TWO ACCLAIMED FOREIGN films—"Clean" and "The President's Last Bang"—are among nearly 100 movies in the Cinemanila International Film Festival, set Oct. 12 to 15 at SM and Robinsons cinemas and select theaters in the metropolis.

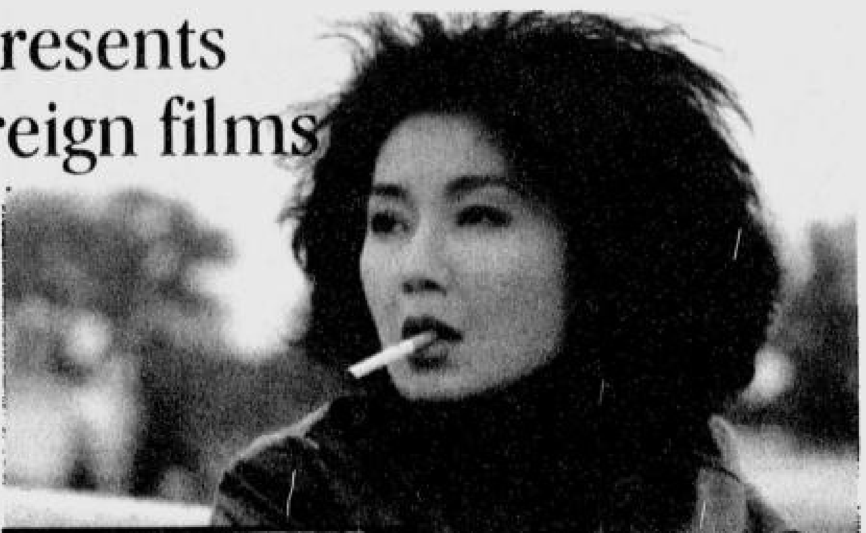
Oliver Assayas' "Clean" (2004) won for Hong Kong's Maggie Cheung the Best Actress award at the 2005 Cannes International Film Festival.

"Last Bang" (2005), directed by Im Sang-Soo, is based on the 1979 assassination of South Korean President Park Chung-hee.

Cinemanila, now on its seventh year, is the longest-running event of its kind in the country. Competing for the Lino Brocka Award (Best Picture) are 16 full-length features. Ten local digital festival films will compete for Best Digital Feature.

Another acclaimed movie in the festival lineup is "Better Luck Tomorrow," by Asian-American filmmakers—director/writer Justin Lin and writer/co-producer Ernesto Foronda.

The film—about growing up in an American suburb—premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and became the first-ever Asian-American film to be picked up for distribution.



"CLEAN"

"THE PRESIDENT'S LAST BANG"

Foronda was born in the Philippines. His works have been screened at the San Francisco Asian American Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Arts in Los Angeles, Walter Reade Theater/Film Society of Lincoln Center, and the Guggenheim Museum in New York City. He is featured in an upcoming anthology, "Asian American Screen Cultures," from Duke University Press.

In 2002, "Better Luck Tomorrow" won the Visionary Award at the San Diego Asian Film Festival and was nominated for the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival.

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October 7, 2005
8:00 pm at
Ticket Prices : Php 300 / 800
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DID YOU KNOW...

TODAY is Nickelodeon's "Worldwide Day of Play." Regular programming will be preempted with messages urging kids to switch off the TV and play outdoors. In the Philippines, Nicksters are invited to The Fort in Taguig for an afternoon of fun starting at 2 p.m.

Film buffs' wish list

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

WE WERE RECENTLY ASKED TO SPEAK TO some film buffs about the current local and international movie scenes. During the open forum that followed our talk, we turned the tables on the members of the audience and asked them to tell producers what they wanted to see on the big screen. The "wish list" they came up with was, to say the least, instructive:

- A new movie or TV show for **Sharon Cuneta**—after she wins the battle of the bulge, of course.
- From **Cesar Montano**, a follow-up to his acclaimed Visayan movie, "Panaghoy sa Suba." It will take more than one film to revive the Cebuano movie industry, so Cesar should keep the momentum going by coming up with a second Cebuano-language production—whether or not he makes it in Hollywood.
- A comedy-drama teaming up Dolphy and Vhong Navarro for the first time. —That would be a blast.
- A film acted in by the members of the "Eigenmann Clan of Actors"—**Eddie Mesa, Rosemarie Gil, Mark Gil, Cherie Gil, Michael de Mesa, Gina Alajar** and the third-generation Eigenmanns, *all* of them!
- A reunion film for the "Bagets" stars **Aga Muhlach** and *barkada*—playing their original characters 20 years later.
- A film for the kiddie stars of the TV soap, "Mga Anghel na Walang Langit." And, contrastingly, in the field of comedy, a riotous movie for the child comics in "Goin' Bulilit."
- A new dramatic film co-starring **Nora Aunor** and **Vilma Santos**. The acclaimed actresses are now in their 50s, so they should play appropriately mature characters, in a marked departure from their occasional co-starrers when they were young adults.
- A movie for sweethearts **Judy Ann Santos** and **Ryan Agoncillo**. (I think this is already on the drawing boards.)
- More established stars who will agree to topbill indie and digital productions, to give them a better chance of clicking with the general viewing public, and thus hastening the development of the digital film movement in the Philippines.
- Finally, for local movie producers to be more sensitive to the issues that are currently confronting the country. These are tumultuous times for Filipinos, but our films generally don't reflect this tumult and ferment.

This wasn't so in the '60s and '70s, when "engaged" filmmakers dramatized the country's problems and difficulties, thus encouraging discussion and illumination.

Let's hope that our film people will get some ideas from this wish list that will help make the local movie scene more eventful next year.

For their part, we trust that our movie lovers will support the exceptional efforts of some of our filmmakers. All too often, quality productions go unappreciated and unsupported, thus frustrating their makers and discouraging the production of other outstanding films in movie seasons to come.

HBO films to watch out for in October

TODAY 6 a.m., "Mystic River." 11:45 a.m., "The Mirror Has Two faces." 8 p.m., "The Matrix Reloaded." 10:15 p.m., "Matrix Revolutions." Tomorrow, 3:45 p.m., "Biloxi Blues." 7:15 p.m., "Changing Lanes." Oct. 4, 6 a.m., "The Mambo Kings." Oct. 5, 9 p.m., "Hollywood Homicide."

Oct. 6, 11:05 p.m., "For Richer or Poorer." Oct. 7, 6 a.m., "The First Wives Club." 10:35 a.m., "The Big Bounce." Oct. 8, 12:45 p.m., "To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday." Oct. 9, 10:30 a.m., "Real Life." Oct. 10, 12:30 p.m., "Surviving Picasso." 2:30 p.m., "The Breakfast Club." 9 p.m., "Gothika."

On Hallmark Channel

HALLMARK, the channel "where great stories come to life," leads off in October with "Riding the Bus with My Sister," at 10:35 tonight. This is the inspiring tale of two siblings and the reunion destined to change their lives.

With a flourishing career as a commercial photographer, Rachel Simon (**Andie MacDowell**) seems to have it all. But the death of her father propels Rachel to exchange her home in New York for the subsidized apartment of her developmentally challenged sister Beth (**Rosie O'Donnell**), whose daily journeys on city buses give Rachel a deeper appreciation for the pleasures of life that are often taken for granted.

Adapted from Simon's acclaimed memoir and directed by **Anjelica Houston**, the heartwarming and insightful feature film also stars **D.W. Moffett** and **Richard T. Jones**.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
TV GUIDE
Sunday October 2, 2005

Laura Jean
club tv
Saturday_8pm
feel_the_vibe
ABC
ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
NBN				Nat'l Basketball League				UN Summit - PGMA		Tinig ng Bayan (Live)		Battle Royale		The Sports List	Go For Gold		Business & Leisure		Unlimited Diving
ABS-CBN 2	A.S.A.P Fanatics		Opids		The Buzz				Goin' Bulilit		Search For A Star In A Million	Rated K		TV Patrol World	Pinoy Big Brother	Sunday Family Cinema			
ABC 5		Ringside		WNCAA Highlights										Hollywood Dream		Maximedia Specials			
GMA 7	Gigsters	Love To Love			S-Files				Mahiwagang Baul			Mel & Joey		All Star K		Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office	
RPN 9		Golf Power	Auto Extreme	Fistorama		JAG		JAG		Navy Ncis		Without A Trace		Celebrity Poker Showdown				Sure Hits	The Working President
IBC 13		EZ Shop		EZ Shop	Taxman	Home Shopping Network		Home Shopping Network		PGMA @ the UN Summit		Sine Asia				Iyo Ang Katarungan	EL SHADDAI		
SBN 21		New Life TV Shopping		Buhay Pinoy		Sheperds Voice		EZ Shop				Oras Ng Himala		Oras ng Katotohanan		Gabay At Aksyon		SBN Sing Along	
Studio 23								Nginiig: The Hidden Files	Pinoy Big Brother	Y Speak		Two & A Half Men	Joey	Will & Grace	F	Digital Tour (10:15PM)		Buffy: The Vampire Slayer	Chefs On The Go
MTV Philippines	MTV Lokal	Cribs	MTV Live		Meet The Barkers	Punk'D	Pimp My Ride	Spring Break								Whatever Things	Rockola	MTV Play	MTV Live
MYX	Star MYX	Urban MYX	Rock MYX	OPM MYX	My MYX	Take 5	MYX Backtrax	MYX Firsts	Mellow MYX	Pop MYX	Urban MYX	MYX Hit Chart				My MYX	OPM MYX	MYX Backtrax	Mellow MYX
CNN	International Correspondents	World News	The Daily Show John Stewart Global Edition	Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	World News	Talk Asia	World News	The Daily Show John Stewart Global Edition	World News	Main Sail	World News	World Sport	Global Challenges	CNN Business Traveller	Talk Asia	Next@CNN
ESPN						World Pool Trick Shot Masters '05				Pro Billiards 2005 Men's Int'l. Challenge		Major League Baseball						English Premier Football League 2005/06	
Solar Sports													Sports Desk						
Cinemax		Woo			Hollywood Confidential			Hard To Kill			Global Effect			I Accuse			Sniper 3 (10:25PM)		
Hallmark Channel	Ladies Man	The Peacekeeper Wars				The Peacekeeper Wars				Regenesis		Regenesis		Riding The Bus With My Sister			Fast Food High (10:35PM)		
Disney Channel	Recess	Sabrina, The Animated Series	Lizzie Mcguire	Brandy & Mr. Whiskers	Lilo & Stitch	Totally Spies	Mr. Bean	Phil Of The Future	Suite Life Of Zack And Cody	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney			Mr. Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	Phil Of The Future	Even Stevens	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Discovery Channel		Science Mysteries		American Chopper		Extreme Engineering		Mummy Autopsy		Hour Asia		Cathay Pacific Signature Series		Cleopatra's Lost City		FBI Files		Power Zone	
National Geographic		No Borders				Crocodile Chronicle	Chimp Diaries	Innovation Megacities Week		The Mafia/ Megacities Week		Megastructures/ Megacities Week		Best Of The Week		No Borders		Seconds From Disaster	
Cartoon Network		Police Academy	The Detective Squad	Tom & Jerry Show	The Road Runner Show	Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends	Winx Club	The Life & Times Of Juniper Lee	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	Samurai Jack	Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	The Looney Tunes Show		Cartoon Cartoon Show	Crush Gear Nitro	Power Rangers Ninja Storm	Justice League	Harvey Birdman (11:15PM)	Mission Hill
Nickelodeon	Sabrina, The Teenage Witch	Unfabulous	Naturally Sadie	Romeo	Drake & Josh	The Fairly Odd Parents	Avatar: The Last Airbender	Danny Phantom	My Life As A Teenage Robot	SpongeBob SquarePants	The Fairly Odd Parents	Four Eyes	Romeo	Girls In Love	The Amanda Show	My Dad The Rock Star	Four Eyes	The Wild Thornberrys	Are You Afraid of the Dark?
Lifestyle Network	Date With Design	Ground Rules	Outer Spaces	Your Private Island	Breathing Room	Back To Basics	Barefoot Contessa	Everyday Italian	Ciao America With Mario	Eating Out Loud Miami		Hollywood Baby Boom		40 Celebrity Weddings & Funeral				Style Star	It's Good To Be
Star World	Arrested Development/Less Than Perfect	The Apprentice		Tru Calling		Business Week Asia	Travel Asia	One Tree Hill		The Simpsons	Kumars At 42	Oprah Prime Time		Parkinson		Nighty Night		The Simpsons	Oprah Prime Time
AXN	CSI: Miami		Worst Case Scenario		Mondo Magic	Boarding Pass	30 Seconds To Fame	AXN Shakedown		Ultimate Guinness World Records		Fear Factor (Season V)			CSI		CSI: NY (Season I)		CSI: Miami
JackTV		Reno 911	Blue Collar TV	X-Play	Sweat	Street Smart	The Sib Show	Hip Hop Nation	Ride With Funk Master Flex	WWE Afterburn		WWE Smackdown				Shorties Watching Shorties	The Man Show	Chappelle's Show	Beat The Geeks
ETC	Will & Grace	Saturday Night Live		Veronica Mars		American Dreams		One Tree Hill		Queer Eye For The Straight Guy		Average Joe		Rated Oh!	The Insider Weekend	Outback Jack/ Love Shack		ET Weekend	
HBO		The Dirt Bike Kid (3:15 PM)				Rugrats Go Wild (4:50 PM)		Doc Hollywood (6:15 PM)				The Matrix Reloaded				The Matrix Revolutions			
Star Movies		Alien 3 (3:15PM)				Money For Nothing				Home Alone 4			Opening Night	Good Boy!			The Three Musketeers		
Cinema One				Kailangan Kita				Kung Ako Na Lang Sana				The Paul Street Boys		Otso-Otso, Pamela-Mela Wan					
EWTN	Defending Life	Angelus (3:15PM)	EWTN Bookmark	Adventures In Odyssey	Faith Factory D	Rosary With Mother Angelica	EWTN Global Showcase		Octava Dies	Fr. John Corapi		Sunday Mass				The World Over	Life Is Worth Living	Mother Angelica Live Classics	

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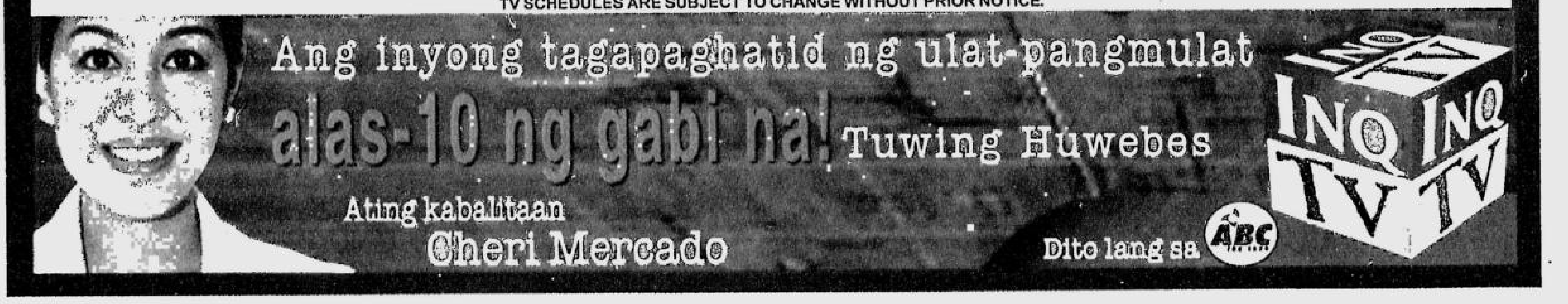

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Ating kabalitaan
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Sunday BIZ

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

He sees Filipinos in a much better light (than we do)

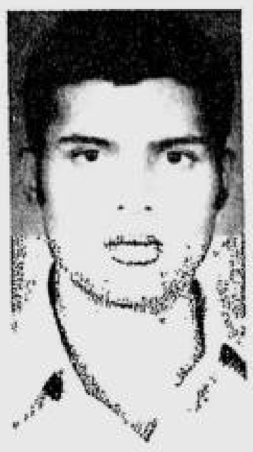
STANDARD Chartered new CEO Eugene Ellis
RAFFY LERMA

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

MOST VIEW THE EXODUS of Filipinos to foreign lands negatively, as it shows they have given up hope in their own country.

One executive however, (and a foreigner at that) looks at it from a more inspiring perspective.

New Standard Chartered Bank chief executive Eugene Ellis says the 80,000 or so Filipinos who leave the Philippines every year to work abroad prove that Filipinos are good workers and are in demand all over the world.



AT 21 years old.

"You don't see that many British leaving their country to work abroad, do you?" he quips.

Although people really leave because of the lack of opportunities here, taking Ellis' perspective does sound and feel better.

And he puts action behind his words.

Having seen the quality of Filipino workers for himself even before he took up his post in Manila, Ellis wants to make the Philippines a center of training for Standard Chartered managers.

FIRST JOB

"Why not bring the world to the Philippines and make the Philippines a center of excellence within the bank?" Ellis points out. "You have excellent training facilities here like AIM (Asian Institute of Management); you have a great training staff here, some of whom went out to conduct training abroad; you have cheap but world class hotels and the service is fantastic; your organizing capability amazes me."

Why he cares for the Philippines stems from a mix of experiences.

As someone who paved the way for 'non-whites' in the corporate ladder of the bank over three decades ago, Ellis knows how it is to be underestimated, as he feels Filipinos are.

To Ellis, the overseas Filipino workers represent "feeding the world with a trickle of gold but the mother lode is sitting here in the Philippines. We have to mine this for the benefit of the Philippines."

Beginnings

Some 33 years ago, he left his native India and sought a better life in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates.

He walked into the office of Standard Chartered and handed his application to a British accountant who did not even look at him.

He just simply told him that the bank had no openings for clerks.

Ellis' reply was: "I am applying as an officer."

Only then did the accountant look up and asked, "What makes you think you can be an officer?"

Ellis simply handed in his resume and left. By the time he got home, the phone was ringing and the accountant asked him to come back for an interview.

He got the job. And the British accountant became his mentor and friend for 15 years.

Banking start

Prior to going to UAE, Ellis worked for The State Bank of India where his father also worked.

He was assigned in the mail department where he delivered documents and letters, reading everything that passed through his hands and acquiring banking knowledge along the way.

While with the State Bank, he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Commerce and Economics via a distance learning program from the University of Delhi.

Ellis had finished high school at 15 and was not qualified to go to University where the minimum acceptance age was 16.

EUGENE and Maria Ellis.

At that time, he was in love with cars and worked as a mechanic.

He soon realized that working in cars was different from riding them.

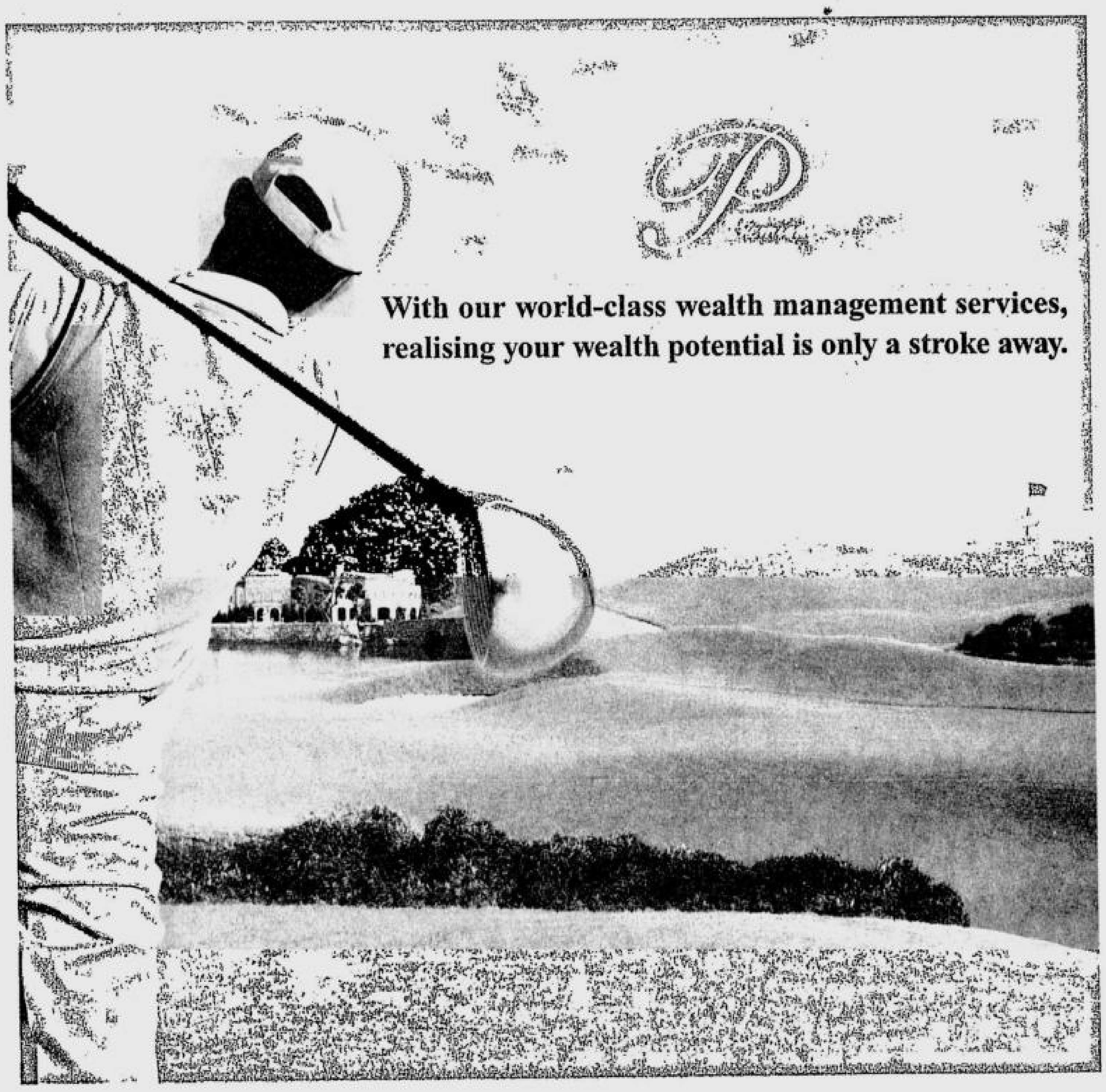
He quit and joined The State Bank. Ellis knew, however, that his growth in the bank would be stymied because his father was still there.

Many of the officials still looked at him as the little boy who would often visit his father.

When he was due to become an officer, he had to take a post in a village for him to be promoted.

At that time, Ellis was already married, to Maria, a designer and Catholic like him who also pursued her college degree while working.

HE SEES/ B2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EUGENE is the second longest-serving employee of SCB at 33 years.

He sees Filipinos …

From page B1

They decided it was time to "go west" as many were doing.

He boarded a plane, leaving Maria who was heavy with their first child.

Once he got accepted in Standard Chartered in 1975, Ellis was sent to London for training.

There, he was taught among other things to acquire an "international accent," a way of speaking English without a distinct accent indicating nationality.

While there, he took advantage of the quality tailors in the British capital and had several suits made.

He was excited at the prospect of wearing them when he went back to the Middle East as the first non-British officer of the bank.

But the suits stayed in their hangers for months. On his first day back from training, he was told to come in working clothes.

Work in a ceiling

Confused but obedient, he donned his "working clothes" and was told to sort the bank's records of 20 years.

The documents were mixed with pigeon poop.

"After a few despondent days, I started reading," Ellis says. He finished filing and sorting everything in three months and gained more knowledge about the bank than any other employee.

It was smooth sailing then for Ellis who said he never left because the bank kept promoting him.

After 11 years in Dubai he and Maria decided to move, as the children needed a better environment for their education.

At that time, schooling in the area was limited. Although the bank gave them choices—Britain, United States, Canada—they decided on Australia because Maria had relatives there.

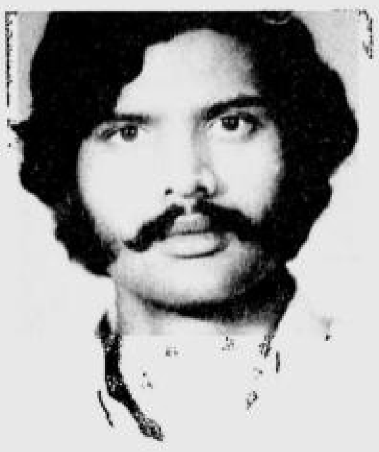
By this time, Ellis had earned a reputation as the bank's fair-haired boy, then being the only non-British member of top management.

When he left Dubai, he was treasurer.

A few days after he started working in Australia he called Maria, who was left in Dubai to pack and transport everything, to tell her to stop what she was doing as he was going back.

It turned out that Ellis was assigned to a post seven notches lower than his last with a salary that was "pathetic."

But having been there before, Ellis took the job.



AT 24 years old.

"I fought hard to prove myself 200 percent. I would ask questions about the way things were being done. I would give suggestions," he says.

Three months later, the bank's head of Treasury apologized profusely and wrote a letter to Australia's managing director telling him they had made a mistake.

Ellis was immediately promoted three to four levels higher.

He stayed in Australia for six years. He bought a home and acquired citizenship along the way. He was moved to Singapore for four years and then sent back to Australia. This time as CEO.

In 2004, he heard about the Philippine post and volunteered for the job.

"They were shocked," he says of management's reaction.

It is not his first time in the country. He was here the day after Aquino was assassinated when everything was quiet. He had such a good time that he extended his stay in the country to a week.

Ellis admits he loves Filipinos. When he was in Singapore, his wife dabbled in the fashion business and they had two Filipina maids whom she taught to sew and cut.

The skills displayed by the two amazed Eugene and Maria.

The Philippine post may be Ellis' last. But it is here where he want to be remembered as having done the most.

"Everybody has an ego. I want to be remembered as having contributed to a people and a country. We can use the culture of the Philippines for the betterment of the bank.

"You are sitting on the mother lode," he says.

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PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

DAY 1
October 5, 2005

8:00 - 10:00 Registration and Networking
(Welcome musical rendition by Banda Kawayan)
10:00 - 10:15 Coffee Break
10:15 - 10:30 OPENING OF THE PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT CLINIC
Led by: Hon. Estrella F. Alabastro — Secretary, Department of Science and Technology
Assisted by: Dr. Mina T. Gabor — President, Philippine Small and Medium Business Development Foundation (PHILSMED)
Hon. Lecira V. Juarez — Chairperson, Cooperative Development Authority (CDA)
PHILSMED Board of Directors And Officers
Officers of the Cooperative Development Authority
Co-Organizers (Heads of Federations)
Sponsors
Product Specialists/Consultants & Other Guests
10:30 - 11:15 OPENING CEREMONY
National Anthem — LandBank of the Philippines Choir
Invocation — Earth Savers Dreams Ensemble (UNESCO Artists for Peace) (By the group of NCCA Executive Director, Cecile Guidote-Alvarez)
Opening Remarks — Dr. Mina T. Gabor, President, PHILSMED
Opening Message — Hon. Lecira V. Juarez, Chairperson, Cooperative Development Authority (CDA)
Sounding of Gong by Co-Organizers — Led by Philsmed Chairman, Mr. Alberto Fenix Jr.
Introduction of the Keynote Speaker — Hon. Lecira V. Juarez, Chairperson, Cooperative Development Authority (CDA)
Keynote Speaker — Hon. Senator Alfredo S. Lim, Chairman, Senate Committee on Cooperatives
11:15 - 12:00 1st Plenary Session: "Proactive Coop Set Up"
Facilitator — Mr. Mannon Manugon, Board of Director, PNB Retirees and Employees Multipurpose Cooperative
Speaker — Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director for the Asia Pacific Region, International Cooperative Alliance
Reactors — Mr. Ruben M. Caro, Associate Dean, Graduate School of Management, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (PLM)
Mr. Fulgencio A. Vigare, Administrator, Cooperative Development Authority
Mr. Felix A. Borja, Secretary-General, Cooperative Union of the Philippines
12:00 - 12:15 Open Forum
12:15 - 1:30 Lunch/Raffle Draw
Entertainment/Intermission — Lakandula Cultural Dance Troupe (Courtesy: Department of Tourism)
1:30 - 1:45 Globe IT Solutions for SMEs — Ms. Agnes Celeste D. Fernando, Head, Globe's SME Sales Channel, Sales & Distribution, Consumer Business Group
1:45 - 2:00 Open Forum/Raffle Draw
2:00 - 2:45 2nd Plenary Session: "IT Improves Coop Networking"
Facilitator — Mr. Angelo Ramon M. Perez, Head IT Department, National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO)
Speaker — Secretary Virgilio L. Peña, Commission on Information and Communication Technology
Reactors — Mr. Charlie Samson, Operations Manager, Philippine Federation of Credit Cooperatives (PFCCO)
Mr. Horacio T. Cadiz, CTO, Philippine Network Foundation
2:45 - 3:00 Open Forum
3:00 - 3:15 Coffee Break/Raffle Draw
3:15 - 4:15 3rd Plenary Session: "Novice Marketing for Cooperatives"
Facilitator — Mr. Geffre T. Bälka, Consultant, Union of Metro Manila Cooperative (UMMC)
Speaker — Dr. Mina T. Gabor, Ph.D, President, PHILSMED
Reactors — Asst. Sec. Fetalina Agoncillo-Reyes, Executive Director, Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions (CITEM)
Mr. Donald Patrick Lim, President, Philippine Marketing Association
4:15 - 4:30 Open Forum
4:30 - 6:00 Networking Product Consultancy

DAY 2
October 6, 2005

8:45 - 9:45 4th Plenary Session: "Product Development Ensures Sustainability of Cooperative Sales"
Facilitator — Ms. Myrna Sunico, Professor, University [illegible]
Speaker — Mr. Ricky Manuel, Founder & CEO, Green Mango
Reactors — Undersecretary Rogelio Panlasigui, Department of Science & Technology
Mr. Joel L. Enriquez, President/Design Director, [illegible]
Mr. Ramon G. Gutierrez, Architect, Consultant, Designer, RSD D[illegible]
Mr. Al Coronan, Vice President and General Manager, TN Philippines, Inc.
9:45 - 10:00 Open Forum
10:00 - 10:15 Coffee Break/Raffle Draw
10:15 - 10:45 5th Plenary Session: "Importance of Asset Management To Cooperatives"
Facilitator — Ms. Teresita [illegible], Landbank of the Ph[illegible]
Speaker — Ms. Gilda Pico, Acting President, Landbank of the Philippin[illegible]
Reactor — Atty. Renato Fernandez, Chairman, Metro South Cooperative Bank
Open Forum
[illegible] - 11:45 6th Plenary Session: "Breaking Barriers: Continuous Education For Cooperatives"
Facilitator — [illegible] Alfredo B. DeTorres, Coordinator, Graduate Program Of Public Affairs, UP Los Baños
Speaker — Mr. Ruben M. Caro, Associate Dean, Graduate School of Management, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila
Reactor — Dr. Cuyugan T. Castillo, Director, Agricultural Credit and [illegible] Institute (ACCI), UP Los Baños
11:45 - 12:00 Open Forum
12:00 - 12:30 Lunch/Raffle Draw
12:30 - 1:30 2nd Business Excellence Awards for SME's (Separate Program)
1:30 - 2:30 7th Plenary Session: Green Technology for Global Acceptance of Coop Produce"
Facilitator — Mr. Manfred Pineda, Consultant, PHILSMED
Speaker — Undersecretary Salvador Sala, Department of Agriculture
Reactor — Ms. Mary Ann P. Sayo, General Manager, East-West Seed Company
Mr. Jerry Pacturan, Executive Director, Philippine Assistance Programme, Inc.
[illegible] - 2:45 Open Forum
2:45 - 3:00 Coffee Break/Raffle Draw
3:00 - 4:00 8th Plenary Session: "Experiences and Futures: Credit, Savings and Cooperative Financing"
Facilitator — Mr. Ben Hur Amador, Marketing Officer, Philippine Rural [illegible] Education Service Cooperative
Speakers — Mr. Ranjith Hettiarachchi, CEO, Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions
Reactor — Mr. Nelson L. Buenaflor, President/CEO, Quedan & Rural Credit Guarantee Corporation
Mr. Alex G. Arrendado, Vice President, Business Operations, National Confederation of Cooperatives
4:00 - 4:15 Open Forum
4:15 - 5:00 9th Plenary Session: "Best Practices of Successful Cooperatives"
Facilitator — Father Max Arenas, Parish of the Holy Cr[illegible] Credit Cooperatives
Speakers — Mr. Ben D. Geron, General Manager, So[illegible] Development Corp.
Ms. Myrna De Ocampo, Marketing Manager, TIMCOP
Dr. Cirilo C. Rafa, Vice Chairman, CAFFMACO
Mr. Roberto Mascarda, General Manager, Batangas Credit Cooperative
Atty. Bernard D. Padilla, Chairman, Bayuin Bangad [illegible] Cooperative
Guest Speaker/Presentor — Mr. Hiresh Melwani, CEO, HLN Pharma Inc.

Putting twists in consumer banking to propel growth

DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS, EAST West Banking Corp. has aggressively built up its various consumer products—deposits, housing loan, car loan, salary loan and credit card—to propel its growth.

With other income streams staying flat, the consumer business is the battle ground for most banks today.

"We differentiate in terms of delivery and service," said EWB president and chief executive officer Elrey T. Ramos.

For the bank's corporate salary loan, Ramos said that EWB delivers what was promised, which is the release of the loan within 48 hours from the time of application, and the application process is even easier.

Meanwhile, the Car Suite Loan, introduced early 2004, has made East West Bank one of the top three car loan providers today. "For our car financing, we are known in the market as the fastest. The client gets a yes or no decision within 24 hours from the time the application is received," he added.

"It's a big accomplishment for us coming from zero and a late entrant to the car financing market at that," Ramos added.

EWB is also different because of its positioning, catering to the middle market. For the car financing program, the bank is now extending loans to second-hand car buyers aside from loans for the brand new cars. "Some players are limited to brand-new vehicles. But for us, we're now closely working with dealers of second-hand cars," Ramos said.

The strategy of low interest rates and lowest repayment amounts to East West Bank MasterCard, which was introduced in July last year, is increasingly drawing card holders and primary consumers. Since its launch, EWB now has 20,000 credit cardholders. By yearend, EWB expects to increase credit card base to 55,000. Ramos said that the goal is guided by a business development program that speeds up card acquisition.

East West makes its consumer products attractive by offering special promos. For EWB MasterCard, cardholders earn points that can be used to redeem selected items from the EWB MasterCard Everyday Essentials Catalogue.

A promo giving the cardholders entry to the electronic raffle for every P500 single purchase is currently ongoing through Sept. 30. Cardholders get an added chance to win kitchen, bedroom, bathroom or laundry showcase plus gift certificates from merchant-partners.

In an effort to build up its savings deposit base, EWB launched its "East West Getaways" promo giving its depositors the opportunity to win adventure trips to the United States, Australia and Asia.

"The purpose of these promos is to bring in more consumer accounts to the bank and to foster customer loyalty," Ramos said, stressing that it is consistent with the bank's objective of building relationships and completing the lives of their clients. The bank is slowly and successfully increasing its focus on the consumer markets.

For the getaways promo, Ramos said it may not be the industry's grandest but it goes farther where other bank's promo programs stopped—making it a family affair, and, hence, in harmony with its slogan. "With others, the trip awards are normally good for two. With us, it's good for four. We believe that if parents should go on a vacation, their kids should go along with them," Ramos said.

The rules of the promo are also the easiest, making more number of people able to join the contest and get the chance of winning once-in-a-lifetime prizes. Response to the promos is building up. The bank has seen significant improvement in its consumer banking business.

"During the first six months of the year, consumer loan portfolio grew from 35 percent to 50 percent of the bank's total loans," Ramos said.

With the way things are going, Ramos said that they would not be surprised if the consumer business becomes the bank's major income driver.

"Probably 50 percent of the bank's net income comes from consumer loans," he said. In three years, the bank is aggressive in opening new branches to bring its reach to the farthest corners of the country. It has opened 31 personal banking centers (PBCs), bringing its branch network to 70 from only 39 three years ago. Seven more will be opened by mid-2006. The bank is only optimistic of the future.

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Rice delicacy...

From page B10

Espasol has a more subtle taste, and the "baye-baye" flavor stands out for its sweetness, softness and the richness of coconut meat.

Woman's name

Cabugao Sur Councilor Alicia Jagonio says she does not know how "baye-baye" got its name.

"Baye" or "babayi" means woman in Hiligaynon, but there's nothing in "baye-baye's" appearance that could be associated with women. It is rolled to resemble stubby cigars. Maybe, it's the sweetness.

Jagonio says the barangay residents have been making the delicacy for as long as she can remember.

Every All Soul's Day, which is also Cabugao Sur's fiesta, all the houses prepare "baye-baye" as part of the fare.

Jagonio says the residents are planning to hold a "Baye-baye" Festival to put the barangay on tourism map.

While the recipe has not veered too far away from the traditional, "baye-baye" production has improved, says Gina Hachero.

Before, the ingredients are mixed using mortar and pestle. Today, she uses an electric grinder cum mixer that she bought from her profit.

When passed through the electric mixer, the steamed baye-baye mixture comes out smoother and more flavorful.

But sweeter still is the success of the Hacheros, who started their "baye-baye" business from scratch.

Money problem

Gina thought of reviving her mother's "baye-baye" production when her children starting going to school, thus straining the family's income.

Rodolfo's earnings from selling "*balut*" (boiled half-fertilized duck's egg) and working occasionally in the neighbor's farms were hardly enough to feed the brood of four.

"At that time we were so poor that our house would fall apart with the slightest push. I had only P1,000 but I was determined to start a business," says Gina, recalling how she started in 1996.

Gina would take her products to malls, food stalls and trade fairs. She offered free "baye-baye" for tasting, confident that she could win them over at first bite.

Today, the Hacheros' business continues to grow.

They have two tricycles and two sons in college. Every day, they have to produce at least 600 pieces of "baye-baye."

But when orders kept coming in, the couple would work without sleep for two nights in a row.

They also have a generator to protect their business from sudden power interruptions, especially when orders from expatriates come in.

Rodolfo gave up selling balut and helped his wife in her business. Gina takes charge of production, marketing, keeping the books and procuring documents for business permit. But she did not name their business after her. Polding's is her husband's nickname because she thinks he is more popular.

Business-oriented

Gina says she became something of a businesswoman eight years ago when, as a housewife, she always worried about where to get the next meal to feed their children.

She is busier now and hardly has the time to relax. But she is more focused than ever.

"I don't wish for anything except to be able to send all my children to college. If I have some savings, I plan to set up an outlet near the national highway in 2007 when the new Iloilo airport opens," she says.

RODOLPO and Gina Hachero

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LAS PINAS – Talon Dos	MIN BID
1. 2-Sty T'Hse/ Unit-11, BFCarnival Park St.nr.E. Yuhico St. Union Villas T'Hms, BF Resort Vill., Talon-2 / LA-85 / FA-128	1,900,000
2. 2-Sty T'Hse/# 475-C,North-11 St, Angela Vill., Brgy. Talon-2 LA-68/FA-101 (access via Happy Vile)	2,000,000
CALOOCAN – Gracepark	**MIN BID**
3. Lot / L-25 & 26 B-31, 2nd St. LA-388 (between 3rd & 4th Ave)	3,428,000
BINANGONAN,Rizal-Tayuman	**MIN BID**
4. Lot-1(Psd-04-009041) Natl.Rd cor.short-cut Rd.to Flood-way (infront of Tayuman Elem.Schl) LA-740 *w/ occupant	2,328,000
ANGONO, Rzl. (via Antipolo)	**MIN BID**
5. Lot / L-6 B-2, Mills St, Sta. Monica Classic Est,Ph-3,Mission Hills Brgy Colaique/LA-540 (near Pines City)	1,950,000
ANTIPOLO, RIZAL (Lots)	**MIN BID**
6. L-23 B-10, Cottonwood Hts Bayugo / LA-266 (near Sumulong)	1,332,000
7. L-21 B-2, Birchwood St, Cottonwood Hts, Bayugo / LA-355	1,778,000
8. Lot-47 Blk-18,Park Ridge Est. Ph.-3 (via Valley Golf) LA-811	1,852,000
9. L-17 B-1, Beverly St, Sta Barbara 1,Mission Hills,Colaique/LA-1,021 (nr. Pines City)	3,692,000
10. H&L, L-7 B-3, Valley Golf Dr. Valley Golf Subd., Mayamot LA-1,961 / FA-107 (Nr. Ortigas Ext'n.)	4,950,000
CAINTA – Brgy. San Juan	**MIN BID**
near Greenland Subd. & Cainta Municipal Hall	
11. Lots-17,18,19,21&22 Blk-1 & Psu-178259, Victoria Avenue LA-2,808 (near Buenmar St.)	4,853,000
LAGUNA – Sta. Rosa	**MIN BID**
via Tatlong Hari Rd, nr. Town proper	
12. H&L / Lot-5 Blk-8, Jupiter St. Satelite Ville,Sinalhan/LA–40/ FA-48	319,000
BULACAN – Plaridel	**MIN BID**
Brgy. Lalangan - Plaridel Heights	
13. Cor. Lot / L-2 B-47, LA-355	1,243,000
14. Cor. Lot / L-13 B-7, LA-404	1,414,000
15. Cor. Lot / L-2 B-38, LA-411	1,439,000
16. Lot / Lot- 25 Blk-8, LA-350	1,155,000
BULACAN - MALOLOS	**MIN BID**
17. H&L / Lot 2 & 3 Blk-17,Desta Ave. cor. 1st St., Desta Hms. Brgy. Atlag. LA-515 / FA-293 (near Sto. Cristo Diversion Rd.)	2,732,000
PANGASINAN – Villasis	**MIN BID**
18. Lot/Lot-5036-M-2(Psd-1-02123) Brgy Labit & Unzad/LA-20,000 (nr. farm of Condrado Estrella) *w/ occupant	340,000
MALABON- Brgy. Dampalit	**MIN BID**
North Merville Park-I Subd. (*w/ occupants)	
19. *L-1 B-14, J Cancio St/LA-186	135,000
20. *Lot-19 Blk-13-A / LA – 168	162,000
21. *L-53 B-9, D Rosario St / LA-281	359,000
MALABON – Hulong Duhat	**MIN BID**
22. Lot / # 8 Don Basilio Bautista Blvd / Lot Area – 886	6,200,000
TAGAYTAY CITY	**MIN BID**
between Sta. Rosa, Lag. Short-cut & Aguinaldo H-way	
23. Lot/Lot-8, Tagaytay-Calamba Rd Tolentino-West (over looking Taal Lake) LA-2,156 *w/ Lis Pendens	20,000,000
MAKATI CITY	**MIN BID**
Kingswood Twr.- P. Tamo cor. V. Cruz	
24. Condo / Unit-P2F, Tower-B 28th & 29th flrs. / FA-154	7,208,000
25. Condo / Unit-P3F,Tower-B 26th & 27th flrs. / FA - 154	7,208,000
QUEZON CITY	**MIN BID**
26. H&L/# 269 M.Aquino St. Banlat Rd,T.Sora.LA-120 / FA-191 (near NPC/NIA Subdivision)	1,700,000
VALENZUELA – Nr. Malinta Exit	**MIN BID**
27. Lot / Lot-551-A-2-A-3, Pineda Compd, Bonifacio St./ LA-1,114	2,241,000
28. 3-Sty Bldg/ Lot-894-A-3,Manano Laurel Drive Paso De Blas LA-463/FA-809 (nr Fortune Vill -4)	5,300,000
SAN MATEO-Bo.Patiis, RIZAL	**MIN BID**
29. *Lot / B-15, LA – 40,171	2,550,000
30. *Lot / B-16, LA – 40,171	2,550,000
31. *Lot / B-17, LA – 40,171	2,550,000
32. *Lot / B-18, LA – 40,171 * No Right Of Way	2,550,000
TARLAC CITY	**MIN BID**
33. Agro-Indl / Lot-3871-D,Sapang Maragul,Tibag /LA-10,001-near arch	2,984,000
NUEVA ECIJA - Cab. City	**MIN BID**
# 529 Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili (near L.T.O.)	
34. Lot / Lot 3-A-5 / LA-1,847	401,000
35. Lot / Lot 3-A-4 / LA-1,847	401,000
36. Lot / Lot 3-A-3 / LA-1,848	401,000
37. Lot / Lot 3-A-2 / LA-1,848	401,000
38. Lot / Lot 3-A-1 / LA-1,839	401,000
CAVITE – Carmona (Lot)	**MIN BID**
39. L-16 B-1 Ph-1,Mla Southwoods Brgy C Baybay/LA-1,224 (nr. Gate-1)	6,577,000

RESIDENTIAL

CAVITE – Dasmarinas	MIN BID
40. H&L/L-57 B-12, Kings St, Regency Exec.T'Hms, Brgy. Malinta LA-50,FA-87 (between BMEG Lab. & Malinta Elem. School)	594,000
CAVITE - Molino III, Bacoor	**MIN BID**
Madelaine Place, Springville Subd.	
41. Lot / Lot - 8 Blk - 1 / LA-117	646,000
42. Lot / Lot - 6 Blk - 4 / LA-120	663,000
43. Lot / Lot - 10 Blk - 3 / LA-123	679,000
44. Lot / Lot - 18 Blk - 6 / LA-132	729,000
45. Lot / Lot - 19 Blk - 7 / LA-132	729,000
Washington Manor, Springville Subd. (Blk-2)	
46. Lot / Lot-2 Blk-2 / LA-154	1,134,000
47. Lot / Lot-16 Blk-2 / LA-145	1,067,000
48. Lot / Lot-18 Blk-2 / LA-162	1,192,000
Central Phase – 2, Springville Subd. (Lots)	
49. L-24 B-7,MB Villar Ave /LA-120	974,000
50. L-3 B-3, near ClubHse./ LA-112	790,000
51. L-5 B-3, near ClubHse./ LA-112	790,000
52. L-7 B-3, near ClubHse./ LA-122	861,000
53. L-2 B-1, near ClubHse./ LA-96	677,000
Orchard Res'l. Estates and Golf & Country Club - Salitran, Dasmarinas, Cavite	
FAIRWAY LOTS	
54. Lot-46 Blk.-50 / L.A.- 630	2,394,000
55. Lot-49 Blk.-50 / L.A.- 582	2,212,000
56. Lot-50 Blk.-50 / L.A - 627	2,383,000
NON - FAIRWAY LOTS	
57. Lot-12 Blk -38 / L.A - 653	1,959,000
58. Lot-06 Blk.-45 / L.A.- 1,085	3,255,000
59. Lot-07 Blk.-45 / L.A - 752	2,256,000
CAVITE- Brgy. Palangue, Naic	**MIN BID**
Mango Orchard Res'l. & Farm Estates	
60. Lot-6 Blk.-19-A / L.A.- 1,249	1,249,000
61. Lot-5 Blk.-19-B / L.A.- 3,052	3,052,000
62. Lot-8 Blk.-19-B / L.A.- 1,890	1,890,000
63. Lot-9 Blk.-19-B / L.A.- 2,247	2,585,000
64. Lot-1 Blk -24 / L.A - 1,624	1,868,000

COMMERCIAL / AGR'L.

(SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL)

MAKATI – Pio Del Pilar	MIN BID
Bangkal – near S.Super Hi-way & EDSA	
65. Lot/L-7 B-7,Evangelista St cor. Arguelles St / LA - 310	11,600,000
66. L-8 B-7,Evangelista St LA-311	11,700,000
Millenium Plaza- Mktl. Ave. cor. Eduque St.	
67. Condo Unit / 5/F, FA–261 (near former Int'l. Schl.)	17,765,000
QUEZON CITY	**MIN BID**
68. Building / Lots 8 & 9 Blk-S-27 Timog Ave. LA-1,380-FA-1,500 (nr.Unionbank Br & GMA-7) *on Lease	70,000,000
69. W'house / 185 Roosevelt Ave. S.F Del Monte / LA-5,641 FA-3,454 (infront of Watch Twr)	140,000,000
70. Warehouse / # 138 Gen. Luis cor. Pasacola Rd, Nagkaisang Nayon, Novaliches LA-49,504 / FA-23,384	300,000,000
MANILA – Divisoria (KP Twr.)	**MIN BID**
71. Condo, 2/F, CM Recto Ave. corner Juan Luna St / FA-658	28,792,000
CAVITE - Tanza, Bo. Tres Cruces	**MIN BID**
nr. Transville Subd, via Trece Martires	
72. Agri Lot / Lot-2931 (Rs-1273) LA-40,127 *w/ Adverse Claim & No Right Of Way	5,117,000
TAGUIG - Global City Fort Boni.	**MIN BID**
(infront of Adidas Sports Camp)	
73. Lot / L-3 B-18,cor of 28th St. & 4th Ave. / LA-1,643	164,300,000
SARIAYA - QUEZON PROV.	**MIN BID**
74. Agri Lot w/ resi.H&L,W'hse.& Piggery/Lot-6181-A-5-A-1-A-1-D, E,F,G,I & Lot-6181-A-4,Psd 4A-001202, Bo Sampaloc/ LA-101,038, FA-9,277 (along the Hi-way) * with Lis Pendens	45,053,000
TARLAC CITY – Poblacion	**MIN BID**
75. Lot / Lot-4-C, Rizal St / LA-755	8,094,000
76. Lot / Lot-4-A, Panganiban St. LA-1,120 (infront of iceplant)	11,943,000
NUEVA ECIJA - Cab. City	**MIN BID**
# 529 Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili (near L.T.O.)	
77. Agri Lot / Lot-3-B / LA-37,041	2,366,000
78. Comml Lot w/ W'hse & Offc. Lot-2-H / LA-2,260 / FA-580	5,098,000
VALENZUELA CITY	**MIN BID**
79. W'hse/Lot-13 Templanza St. D. Pedro Vill, Marulas. LA-2,540 FA-3,314. (Near Savory Rest)	18,209,000
80. Ind'l Lot w/ 2 W'hses(14&16) Barracks, Canteen,Guardhse Lot-1075-D-1-C, Plastic City 6 T.Santiago St,Canumay-West LA - 9,923 / FA – 7,096	39,703,000
81. Ind'l Lot w/ W'hse / # 47 Maysan Rd / LA-7,871/FA-7,040 (near Maysan Elem Schl)	40,702,000
82. Industrial Lot / Lot-382-C Plastic City Housing,Canumay LA – 25,798 / (Via T. Santiago St & Pinagbayanan St.)	45,000,000

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Location : CAGAYAN DE ORO GARDENS
Lumbia, Cagayan de Oro
Section No. : Lawn 2 / Bk. 22 Lots D, E, F, G, H
Bk. 25 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 26 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P

Location : MARIA CRISTINA GARDENS
Sta. Filomena, Iligan City
Section No. : 3-A / Bk. 80 Lots K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 111 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 112 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P

Location : ZAMBOANGA MEMORIAL GARDENS
Pitugo, Sinunuc, Zambo. City
Section No. : 18 / Bk. 181 Lots O, P
Bk. 145 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 156 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 169 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 180 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 192 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 193 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P

Location : OZAMIS MEMORIAL GARDENS
Dimaluna, Ozamis City
Section No. : 10
Bk. 128 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 141 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, I, J

Location : NORTH ZAMBOANGA GARDENS
Polanco, Zambo. del Norte
Section No. : 7 / Bk. 320 Lots I, J, K
Bk. 315 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 316 Lots A, B, C, D, E, F, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 317 Lots I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 318 Lots I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Bk. 319 Lots I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P

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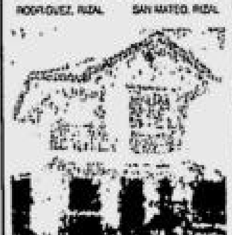

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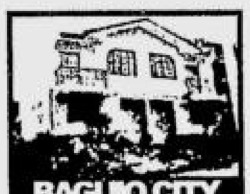

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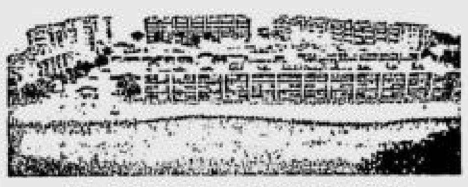

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Operating metal fabrication company with more than 30 product lines on Housewares, Organizer Racks, Home and Office furnishings sold at appliance and department stores nationwide is inviting investors to take over and continue the bussiness with assets of P20M pesos. Please call 6453426; 6454681; 09178969535

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

CAB Survey 9110690

CIVIL ENGINEER For Housing / Subd Dev 912-7731; 911-2696

DRIVER PASAY 510-0915

MECHANICAL ENGINEER
• With knowledge in Autocad
• Fresh Graduates are welcome
Please apply at:
FREEZE-AIRE AIRCON CENTER
2711 Calles St., Bangkal Makati, City
T - 8894922 / 8885270

MOTORCYCLE MECHANIC CADCAM OPERATOR 3615740 / 09216378145

FEMALE

ACCOUNTANT no exp needed can drive 6816696 / 2500254

MARKETING ASST not more than 30y/o prof w/ at least 1yr exp in Mod Srvcs 4398348

Office Sec.23-30 yr. good Eng. Col Gradute Single,lnkg.o 890-8270

BURGER KING
AMERICA'S FAVORITE BURGER CHAIN IS EXPANDING!!!

If you want better opportunities, faster career growth and are hot to get world-class training, be part of our growing network.

ASSISTANT RESTAURANT MANAGERS

- ❖ Male or Female, not more than 30 years old
- ❖ Graduate of any four-year business related course
- ❖ Minimum of 2 years experience in the fast food industry, managerial level
- ❖ Willing to work in different shifts and long hours if necessary

RESTAURANT GENERAL MANAGERS

- ❖ Male or Female, not more than 35 years old
- ❖ Graduate of any four-year business related course
- ❖ Minimum of 3 years experience in the fast food industry, managerial level, Unit/Store Manager preferred.
- ❖ Willing to work in different shifts and long hours if necessary

PRODUCT MANAGER

The Product Manager is responsible for achieving the following business objectives: sales, margins, market share and consumer satisfaction. The Product Manager shall liase with the marketing team of Burger King Corporation to develop marketing strategies and activities.

We offer a package of salary and benefits competitive to the industry.

We also offer prospects of long term career where individuals can aim for the highest possible levels.

Qualified candidates may send their
Resumé with 2x2 photo and
transcript of records to
The Human Resources Department
PERF Restaurants, Inc.
2/F Topy Bldg. #3 Economia St.
Bagumbayan (Libis) QC
or email resumé at hrd_bk@philking.com.ph

WE WILL ONLY REPLY TO QUALIFIED CANDIDATES.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

American Trust Professional Services is in urgent need of
ACCOUNTANTS
to do trading and financial services:
Kindly email resumes at americantrustpronol.com

MALE/FEMALE

Dermatologist Newly Grad. 0920-9209413 • 0919-3220871

ALABANG SALON SR HAIRSTYLIST MASSAGE THERAPIST 8213911 09175346598

Apply ASAP! OFC STAFF 20-40 y.o. Txt 09196146401 Grace

OPTOMETRISTS 3033915

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

Experienced FUNDRAISERS For HOPE WORLDWIDE Email Resume at rmm_727@yahoo.com

High Quality salesman to sell executive job placements, Php 18,000 plus commision. Fax resume' to Mr. Ruiz at 896-6296

INTERIOR DESIGNERS Com. Lit. Apply Dorothy's Beauty Central Greenhills 7213187 10-6pm Fresh Grad Welcome

Sales Exec. 21-30yr. good Eng. Col. Graduate aggressive,lnkg.o 890-8270

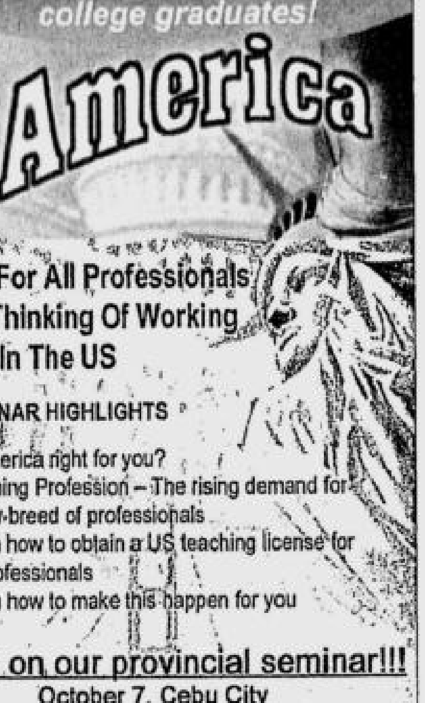
WANTED: SALES REP COLLEGE DEGREE W/ PLEASING PERSONALITY ENTERSKY TRADING, INC. 241-4441 / 242-2404

TEACH, EARN AND LIVE IN THE USA!

In 1980's it was the nurses...
In 1990's it was the physical therapists...
In 2000 it was the computer specialists...

This is an event that you don't want to miss

Today, a new trend is now rising to give opportunities to all college graduates!



America needs 1 million teachers this decade!

Coming to America

A Seminar For All Professionals Who Are Thinking Of Working In The US

A new law has recently passed that gives an opportunity to everyone who possesses a bachelor's degree:

- ☑ *No teaching experience required*
- ☑ *No need to go back to school*
- ☑ *All professionals are welcome*
- ☑ *Open to fresh graduates*
- ☑ *Can be done in 6-12 months*

SEMINAR HIGHLIGHTS

- Is America right for you?
- Teaching Profession – The rising demand for a new-breed of professionals
- Learn how to obtain a US teaching license for all professionals
- Learn how to make this happen for you

Date	October 8, 2005 (Saturday)
Time	9:00 am
Venue	Roof Deck Prestige Tower Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center Pasig City

Catch us on our provincial seminar!!!

October 7, Cebu City
Midtown Hotel, 6pm

October 8, Ilo-ilo City
SM Ilo-ilo, 6pm

October 9, Bacolod
Am-rei Bacolod, 1pm

Contact our office at the numbers printed below

LIMITED SEATS ONLY! REGISTER NOW!
For MANILA Attendees call:
Contact us: (02) 914-7000
Or visit the seminar webpage:
www.LiveNEarnInTheUSA.com

Seminar Fee:
Php 795.00
Early bird rate is P495 until Oct. 4, 2005 only!
Group discounts applicable.

E-WORLD RESOURCE CENTERS, INC.

Suite 2106 Prestige Tower
Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center
Pasig City
(02) 914-7000

5/F, Room 303, TTK Tower
Imperial Appliance
Velez St. Cagayan de Oro City
(088) 856-1376

2/F, Cristina Colonnade Bldg.
Rizal Street, La Paz
Iloilo City
(033) 320-6847

2/F, Cabilan Building
B. Rodriguez Street
Cebu City
(032) 412-4648

PRODUCTION QC

U.S. BASED COMPANY IS SEEKING FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS FLUENT IN ENGLISH AND MANDARIN FOR OUR OPERATION IN THE PHILIPPINES

CANDIDATE MUST:

- Be highly organized and detailed oriented with great follow up skills
- Have minimum 10 years experience of strong production and quality control skill and technical knowledge of garment construction and knit/woven fabrics.
- Have thorough knowledge of entire development and manufacturing process from samples thru productioin of outerwear jackets.
- Understand the production fitting and grading processes.
- Be computer literate and have great communication skills in English and Mandarin with our factories in the Philippines and U.S. office.
- Be willing to travel.

Please email resumé and salary requirement to: pjames48@optonline.net and levy1212@comcast.net

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FILSTAR DISTRIBUTORS CORPORATION Hallmark BIC Writing Instruments

Build your career with us!

JUNIOR PRODUCT PLANNERS

Male/Female, 22-29 years old. Fine Arts Graduate or other related courses. Creative, proficient in oral and written English. Computer literate, with knowledge in Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and Machintosh based flatform.

RESEARCH & COMMUNICATION ASSISTANTS

Female, 22-29 years old. AB English, Mass Communication, Journalism, Advertising graduate or any related courses. Creative & proficient in oral and written English, willing to go on fieldwork for public relations activities. Knowledge in Adobe Photoshop / Illustrator and Photography an advantage.

AUDIT STAFF

Female, 22-25 years old. BSC Accounting graduate with at least 1 year work experience preferably in the field of Audit. Computer Literate.

HUMAN RESOURCES STAFF

Female, 22-30 years old. BS Psychology graduate with at least 1 year work experience in both recruitment and compensation & benefits. Computer Literate.

MERCHANDISERS

Female, 18-25 years old, at least 5'2" in height and at least 2nd yr. college. With pleasing personality, willing to go on field and store assignment.

TELEMARKETERS

Male/Female, 22-30 years old, good communication skills, experience in sales an advantage.

Please submit resume with ID picture and transcript of records to:
Filstar Distributors Corp. 2/F Reliance Center Bldg., #99 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Ugong, Pasig City 1604
Tel. nos.:(632) 671-0555 look for Ms. Ime or Amalia of HRD or e-mail to: iptagudar@filstar.com.ph

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Be part of a crack team doing cutting-edge web applications. **Dig.It.All Solutions**, a small upbeat company, is in need of the following:

Web Designer (Job Code: WBD)
- Creative, with a good eye for visual design
- Deep knowledge of HTML/XHTML and CSS, and web graphics and graphic tools
- Knowledge of JavaScript and PHP is a plus

Web Programmer (Job Code: PRG)
- Up to one year experience doing programming in a web environment, particularly in PHP, HTML/XHTML, Javascript and CSS
- Loves to solve puzzles and problems
- Training in computer science or related courses or equivalent experience
- Experience with ASP, Java, XML and databases is a plus

Asst. Project Manager (Job Code: APM)
- Excellent organizing and leadership skills
- Can write good technical documentation, reports, proposals and presentations
- Believes in continuous improvement and learning
- Understands the Internet and web
- Programming experience and knowledge of PMBOK/AGILE techniques are pluses

The ideal candidates will also possess the ability to think both logically and creatively. If accepted, you will work with a young team tackling both mundane and extraordinary challenges. Email resumes with the correct Job Code in the subject line to:
we.want.in@gmail.com
Send hardcopies with the correct Job Code on the envelope to: We Want In, Box 100 c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, 5th Floor SM Megamall, Bldg B., Mandaluyong City.

JOB Market
www.jobmarketonline.com

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.

Ready to go back to school?

We are in urgent need of competitive and driven individuals for the following positions:

CHANNEL MANAGER
Minimum requirements:
- Graduate of Finance, Economics, Accountancy or any business course
- With at least 3 years successful management experience preferably in the Education sector
- Must have strong financial and analytical skills
- Possesses a strong sense of integrity; confident and results-oriented

CORPORATE PLANNING MANAGER
Minimum requirements.
- Graduate of Finance, Economics, Accountancy or any business course (MBA an advantage)
- At least 5 years experience in corporate planning specifically in the development and/or preparation of financial forecast and corporate performance management systems and reports

NETWORK PLANNING MANAGER
Minimum requirements:
- Graduate of Finance, Economics, Accountancy or any business course
- With strong analytical skills and experience in Financial Planning
- Excellent oral and written communication skills

COURSEWARE SPECIALIST
Minimum Requirements:
- Graduate of Bachelor in Elementary or Secondary Education or its equivalent experience
- Must be familiar with courseware development
- Must be able to create lesson plans/modules
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills and able to meet tight deadlines

FINANCIAL AUDITOR
Minimum Requirements:
- Graduate of BS Accountancy with at least 1 year experience as auditor
- Must be familiar in all areas of Accounting
- Willing to travel

COPYWRITER
Minimum requirements:
- Graduate of Communication Arts or Advertising
- With at least 2 years experience as a copywriter in an advertising agency
- Must be highly creative, resourceful, unconventional thinker and able to meet tight deadlines

CATEGORY OFFICER
Minimum requirements
- Any Bachelor's Degree with specialized fields related to Marketing, Category/Product Management or Business Management.
- Proficient in oral and written English

MEDIA RELATIONS OFFICER
Minimum requirements.
- Graduate of Masscom, Marketing or Advertising
- Preferably with existing media contacts and events management skills
- Proficient in oral and written English

Applicants may send their Resume, Transcript of Records & 2x2 photo to:
Human Resources and Administrative Services
The STI Headquarters
6th Floor Philippines First Bldg.
6764 Ayala Ave., Makati City

Or e-mail the requirements to: ldiego@stihq.net

Applicants for positions not listed above may also send their Resume for future reference.

STI

PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS • 1953 •

THE PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
(a non-stock, non-profit medical organization)
is in need of

STATISTICIAN

Qualifications:
1) BS Statistics Graduate
2) Female, 23-30 years old
3) Highly analytical, eye for detail, with excellent oral and written communication skills
4) Must have sufficient knowledge in windows-based software management
5) Work experience an advantage but not required

SECRETARY

Qualifications:
1) College graduate, Female, 23-30 years old
2) With excellent oral and written communication skills
3) Must have sufficient knowledge in windows-based software management
4) Work experience an advantage but not required.

Interested applicants, may forward credentials to:

THE PCP SECRETARIAT
22nd Floor, One San Miguel Avenue Building
San Miguel Avenue corner Shaw Blvd.
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. No. 910-2252
E-mail address : secretariat@pcp.org.ph
Website address : www.pcp.org.ph

SIA OPTICAL GROUP
SCOPRO OPTICAL CO., INC.
WORLD'S NO 1 REIFLESCOPE MANUFACTURER IS IN NEED OF:

PROCESS ENGINEERS

- Single
- Male not over 27 years old
- Graduate of BSME or BSECE form a reputable college or university
- With or without experience
- Willing to be trained
- With good working attitude
- Well versed in Autocad 2D application
- Knowledge in Machine Shop Operation

Those who are seeking for a stable job you may send your comprehensive resumé with recent photo to the following address on or before October 7, 2005:

Human Resources Section
SCOPRO OPTICAL CO., INC.
Boncraft Bldg. Mayon Corner Pinatubo Streets Mandaluyong City

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YALE ACADEMY
http:// yale-academy.co.kr

IS IN NEED OF

ENGLISH TEACHERS

- W/ teaching experience
- At least college graduate (Preferably English/Education majors)
- Excellent English communication and grammar skills

and look for **Ms. Shameh Paulo**
or e-mail us at haranddy@hotmail.com
19th floor STRATA 2000 Emerald Ave.
Ortigas Center

Accounting Clerk

Female not more than 30 years old, Accounting Graduate with at least 3 years experience in the same capacity,
With knowledge in cost accounting, bookkeeping, inventory and computer literate

2 Office Clerk

Female not more than 30 years old, College degree holder, Proficient in MS Word, Excel and common software application
With Pleasing Personality and Customer Service Skills

Product Manager

Male or Female with at least 2 years sales experience, with solid leadership traits and skills,
Result-oriented, self-confident, with positive attitude and a natural team leader

Foot Spa Attendant / Therapist

Male or Female with pleasing personality, good communication skills

Sales Consultants

Male or Female, willing to do field sales, Earn P2,000/week to P30,000/month

Internet Marketer (Call Center Operator)

Work from home, must have own computer with internet connection. We pay basic salary plus commission. No age limit.

Submit resume with 2x2 photo to:
Mary Del Molina
AIGS Marketing Corporation
Suite 1408 Jollibee Plaza, Emerald Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel no. 687-3016 and 687-3018
e-mail:marydel_aigsph@yahoo.com.ph

3D Animators

TALENT SEARCH

P35,000 to P50,000 salary per month (depending on experience)

One stop creative studio is in need of animators to maintain its execution of international animation.

2-3 years experience in 3D animation and interactive content applications is required.

Please send resumés to:
ani_prod@yahoo.com

DELTEK Deltek Systems Philippines, Ltd.
Web address: http://www.deltek.com

A US based, leading provider of innovative software products has immediate openings for talented, dedicated software professionals.

COMPUTER SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS Job code: CPDV

☐ Work with software development and quality assurance teams in the Philippines and the U.S to deliver software products of outstanding quality.

Requirements
- ☐ Four-year degree in Computer Science, IT, or related field.
- ☐ 2+ years working as a professional software developer using client-server technology such as Gupta SOLWindows, Centura/Gupta Team Developer, PowerBuilder, Oracle Developer, Delphi, Visual Basic, C/C++, or similar languages and tools.
- ☐ Excellent knowledge and skills with relational database management (RDBMS) systems and SQL. Experience with PL/SQL and Transact-SQL. Good understanding of data modeling and Entity-Relationship Diagrams (ERD).
- ☐ Education or experience in project accounting, financial accounting, payroll, inventory, or purchasing.
- ☐ Proven track record of learning new products and technologies.
- ☐ Previous involvement in all phases of the software development lifecycle.
- ☐ Strong analytical & problem-solving skills and ability to troubleshoot problems in a timely manner.
- ☐ Excellent proficiency in written and spoken English.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR RESUME TO:

DELTEK SYSTEMS PHILIPPINES, LTD.
26th Floor, Tower 2
The Enterprise Center
6766 Ayala Avenue, Makati City 1200
Phone: 632-886-5059
Email: applicant@deltek.com

IMPORTANT: PLEASE SPECIFY JOB CODE AS SUBJECT IN YOUR E-MAIL

STERLING GIFTS, INC.

We are an export company producing metal gift items and accessories in the process of expanding and require the following personnel:

• PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

With the following qualifications:
- Engineering background with at least 2 to 3 years experience in related capacity
- Experience in jewelry industry or components/chips assembly or handicrafts would be an advantage
- Focus on detail
- Good interpersonal and organizational skills with common sense
- English report writing skill

• QUALITY CONTROL SUPERVISOR

With the following qualifications:
- Engineering background, with at least 2 to 3 years experience in related capacity
- Experience in jewelry industry or components/chips assembly or handicrafts would be an advantage
- Focus on detail
- Good interpersonal and organizational skills with common sense
- English report writing skill

• ACCOUNTING CLERK

With the following qualifications:
- Accounting background, with at least one year experience in related capacity
- Computer literate
- Good interpersonal and organizational skills with common sense
- Female, not more than 25 years old
- English report writing skill

All qualified applicants may mail or bring their resumé every morning to:
2/F Cement Center Bldg., 3640 P. Sanchez St., Sta. Mesa, Manila
Tel. No. 713-95-72 • Look for Ms. Bagtas

WANTED-VESSEL

Type : Steel Hull
Speed : 12 Knots +
Ton : 350-750 tons
Route : Pto PAL / Kudat

INCOME GUARANTEED
CALL TEXT 0917-8343197

SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Building 255 Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines 2222
Tel. Nos. (047)252-4270 • 4214 • 4283 / FAX No. (047)252-4251

SBMABAC-INV-004-05
Air Traffic Control Tower Glass Panel
Subic Bay Int'l. Airport, SBFZ

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors/contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project : Supply, Installation and Replacement of Air Traffic Control Tower Glass Panel

Location : Bldg. 8050 Subic Bay International Airport, SBFZ

Brief Description : The scope shall be the total replacement of the air traffic control tower glass panel (insulating glass type) including frames and enhancement of roll-up film curtains. The control tower has sixteen (16) units of glass panel (consists of exterior and interior glasses for each panel) installed which are to be removed and replaced with new sets of glass panels for uniformity together with its frames. The roll-up film curtains will be cleansed accordingly to give best visibility and purpose. The contractor will provide professional services and shall supply and install all necessary materials for the attainment of the project.

Approved Budget Cost For the Contract : One Million Four Hundred Ninety Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Seventeen Pesos and Sixty Centavos **(P1,498,817.60)**

Contract Duration : Sixty days upon signing of Purchase Order/Contract. (including delivery and installation of glass panel).

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar and related project within the last **five (5)** years with an amount of at least fifty percent (50%) of the proposed project for bidding. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary ***"pass/fail"*** criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	*Schedule*
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	October 10, 11 and 12, 2005 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
2. Pre-Bid Conference	October 12, 2005 (2:00 p.m.)
3. Opening of Bids	October 26, 2005 (2:00 p.m.)

The venue for the above activities shall be at the office of the Procurement and Property Management Department, Room 201, Bldg. 255, Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of **One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P 1,500.00)** to the SBMA Cashier at Bldg. 229, Waterfront Rd. SBFZ.

The SBMA assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

Approved by:

(Sgd.) ATTY. JOCELYN G. ALVARADO
BAC Chairman

(PDI – Oct. 2 & 9, 2005)

SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Building 255 Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines 2222
Tel. Nos. (047)252-4270 • 4214 • 4283 / FAX No. (047)252-4251

SBMABAC-INV-006-05
Photocopying Services
SBMA

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors/contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project : One (1) Year Contract of Photocopying Services

Location : SBMA various departments

Brief Description : The firm to be engaged for the services shall provide the SBMA with the technology in reproduction equipment or machine that will satisfy the SBMA photocopying needs and ensure that all the equipments are in perfect working condition all throughout the duration of the contract by regular preventive maintenance program and repair service(s) as required.

Approved Budget Cost For the Contract : Two (2) Million and One Thousand Pesos **(P2,100,000.00)**

Contract Duration : One (1) year.

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar and related project within the last **five (5)** years with an amount of at least fifty percent (50%) of the proposed project for bidding. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary ***"pass/fail"*** criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	*Schedule*
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	October 10, 11 and 12, 2005 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
2. Pre-Bid Conference	October 12, 2005 (2:00 p.m.)
3. Opening of Bids	October 24, 2005 (2:00 p.m.)

The venue for the above activities shall be at the Procurement and Property Management Department, Bldg. 255, Barryman Road, SBFZ.

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of **One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P 1,500.00)** to the SBMA Cashier at Bldg. 229, Waterfront Rd. SBFZ.

The SBMA assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

Approved by:

(Sgd.) ATTY. JOCELYN G. ALVARADO
BAC Chairman

(PDI – Oct. 2 & 9, 2005)

SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Building 255 Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines 2222
Tel. Nos. (047)252-4270 • 4214 • 4283 / FAX No. (047)252-4251

SBMABAC-INV-005-05
Supply & Installation of
Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS)
Subic Bay Int'l. Airport, SBFZ

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors/contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project : Supply and Installation of Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS)

Location : Bldg. 8050 (Radar Room), Subic Bay International Airport (SBIA), SBFZ

Brief Description : The scope shall be the total replacement of defective Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) installed at Radar Room, Bldg. 8050, SBIA, SBFZ. The UPS capacity is 40 KVA and must be US or European made with 60 minutes (1 hour) back-up time at full load and shall consist of one (1) unit of UPS modules that is parallel redundant ready with a minimum of two (2) battery strings, and other features. It shall operate in conjuction with the existing building electrical system to provide power conditioning, back-up and distribution for critical loads.

Approved Budget Cost For the Contract : Two Million Five Hundred Pesos **(P2,500,000.00)**

Contract Duration : Forty-five days (45) days upon signing of Purchase Order/Contract including delivery and installation of UPS.

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last ***five (5)*** years with an amount of at least fifty percent (50%) of the proposed project for bidding, and have key personnel and equipment (owned, leased or under purchase) available for the prosecution of the project. The list of minimum equipment requirement is indicated in the Eligibility Forms. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary ***"pass/fail"*** criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	*Schedule*
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	October 10, 11 and 12, 2005 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
2. Pre-Bid Conference	October 12, 2005 (2:00 p.m.)
3. Opening of Bids	October 26, 2005 (2:00 p.m.)

The venue for the above activities shall be at the office of the Procurement and Property Management Department, Room 201, Bldg. 255, Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of **Three Thousand Pesos (P 3,000.00)** to the SBMA Cashier at Bldg. 229, Waterfront Rd. SBFZ.

The SBMA assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

Approved by:

(Sgd.) ATTY. JOCELYN G. ALVARADO
BAC Chairman

(PDI – Oct. 2 & 9, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MATALOM
Bids and Awards Committee

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Date : October 2, 2005
Loan No. : 4299-PH
IFB No. : SFF-MWSP-01-2005

To All Qualified Bidders:

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the *International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)* towards the cost of financing the Community-Based Resource Management Project (CBRMP) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments for civil works component of the project. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines for Procurement under World Bank Loans.*
2. The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the **Construction for the Development/Rehabilitation/Expansion of the Municipal Waterworks System, in the Municipality of Matalom, Province of Leyte.**
3. Bidding documents may be purchased from **October 3, 2005 to November 3, 2005** at the **Municipality of Matalom** with address at Matalom, Leyte for a non-refundable fee of **Php 15,000.00** for each set. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) calendar days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a bid security in the amount of **Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 500,000.00)** which may be in the form of cash, manager's check or bank guarantee and shall be delivered to the **Bids and Awards Committee, Municipality of Matalom**–on or before **November 4, 2005, 10:00 am**, at which time they will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.
5. A pre-bid conference will be held on **October 18, 2005, 10:00AM at SB Session Hall, Matalom, Leyte.**
6. The committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids which may found disadvantageous to the government.

(SGD) ENGR. ANASTACIO C. POL
Chairman, Bids and Award Committee

(PDI - Oct. 2 & 8, 2005)

INVITATION TO BID

Jollibee Jollibee Foods Corporation will conduct a **SEALED BIDDING** on **AS IS WHERE IS BASIS** involving following various equipments, like;

Manufacturing – Bread making line, Form-fill-seal & filling machines, Meat grinder, Extructor, Packaging conveyor w/ hoist, etc.
Refrigeration System – Chiller/Freezer/Blast storage, panels w/ insulation, Spiral & Tunnel blast freezer, etc.
Power Supply System - Gensets, Transformers, Switch gears, etc.
Air/Steam/Water Supply - Boilers, Air compressors, Centrifugal blowers, Deep well, Pressure tanks, Water tank, Waste water system, Water distribution system, etc.
Office Eqpt. – PABX communication system, Auto-CAD on-line printer

All interested parties are encouraged to do the following:

1. Registration & Ocular Inspection – October 3 to 14 except Saturday & Sunday, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
   Location Site: Commissary Plant #578 F. Pasco Ave., Bgy. Santolan, Pasig City
2. Pre-Bid Meeting – October 17, 2005 at 9:00 am
   Venue: 32nd floor Jollibee Plaza Building Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City

BIDDERS ARE REMINDED:

1. To register, secure guidelines & lists, and conduct ocular inspection of all items before the scheduled pre-bid meeting. Registration ends on Oct. 14, 5 pm.
2. To attend the pre-bid meeting before submission of sealed bids. Bid forms and dismantling plan template shall be distributed during the pre-bid meeting.

JFC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN, OR TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAYBE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE COMPANY, THE DECISION OF THE COMPANY IS FINAL & BINDING.

For Inquiries: Please call 646-6303, look for Ms. VILMA SANTOS GAPAN

(PDI-Sept 30, Oct. 1 & 2, 2005)

JOB Market
www.jobmarketonline.com

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (632)920-6401*(632)920-6446
E-mail: sssemail@info.com.ph
Web site http://www.sss.gov.ph

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

Republic of the Philippines
Social Security System

SSS Ee's Rice Grant for the 4th Quarter CY2005

Brief description of the Project

- **Degree of Milling** : **Well Milled Rice (WMR)**
- **Moisture Content** : **14% (maximum)**
- **Grade Specifications** : **Headrice – 90% to 95% (minimum)**
  Broken – 10% to 5% (maximum)
- **Packaging** : **50 kilos in light yellow woven polyprophylene**
- **Labeling** : **With front & back markings**
- **Quantity** : **7,848 sacks**

1. The ***SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM***, through the Operating Expense-Rice Grant intends to apply the sum of P10,594,800.00 (P1,350.00/sack) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the supply and door-to-door delivery of approximately 7,848 sacks of Freshly Milled Premium Grade Commercial Rice for SSS employees for the fourth quarter of Year 2005. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.
2. The ***SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM*** now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the supply and door-to-door delivery of approximately 7,848 sacks of Freshly Milled Premium Grade Commercial Rice. Supply and door-to-door delivery of the GOODS is required within thirty (30) calendar days upon receipt of Purchase Order (P.O.) after contract signing/receipt of purchase order. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, Instruction to Bidders (ITB).
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section I of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.
4. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the ***SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM*** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8 AM TO 5 PM.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of P10,000.00. The method of payment will be on a cash basis/manager's check payable to SSS to be paid at the SSS Cashiering Department, SSS Main Bldg. Ground floor, upon accomplishment of SSS Form R-6. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
6. The ***SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM*** will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on *October 14, 2005 at 1:30p.m.*, Green Room, 12th Floor, SSS Main Bldg., East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City.
7. Bids and eligibility requirements must be submitted at the Green Room, 12th Floor, SSS Main Building on *October 21, 2005 not later than 1:30p.m.* All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in Cash or Manager's / Cashier's check payable to the Social Security System amounting to (Php105,948.00) (1% of ABC). Late Bids shall not be accepted.
8. Bid opening shall be on *October 21, 2005 at 1:30p.m.*, Green Room, 12th Floor, SSS Main Bldg., East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address given.
9. The ***SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM*** reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Bid and Awards Committee
The Secretariat
6th Floor, SSS Main Building
East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel # 922-2991; 924-7380, 920-6401 local 5491
Email – bac@sss.gov.ph
Facsimile number – (02) 924-7380

(Sgd.) THE CHAIRMAN
BIDS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

(PDI - Oct. 2, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Zamboanga del Norte
Municipality of La Libertad
OFFICE OF THE BAC CHAIRMAN
Second Agrarian Reform Communities Development Project (ARCDP II)

INVITATION TO RE-BID

October 2, 2005
World Bank/IBRD Loan No. 7152-PH

The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from International Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of the ARCDPII and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the following contracts located at Barangay Mauswagon, Municipality of La Libertad, Province of Zamboanga del Norte. The Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guideline: Procurement under IBRD Loan and IDA Credits.

The Municipality of La Libertad, Province of Zamboanga del Norte and implementing partner of the DAR for ARCDPII invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Rehabilitation of the 2.23 km Mauswagon to Sitio Tuayon Farm to Market Road under Contract Number RIRR 04 053 01 PLU-ZN

Project Duration : **104 Calendar Days**
Bidding Documents **PHP 3,000.00**
Minimum Bid Security : **PHP 80,000.00**
Bid Closing Date **November 3, 2005 Time 10:00 AM**

DESCRIPTION OF WORKS:

Item No.	Scope of Works	Quantity	Unit
11(1)	Removal of Structures & Obstructions	5.40	cu.m.
12	Roadway and Drainage Excavation	12,027.00	cu.m.
13	Structure Excavation	204.00	cu.m.
14	Embankment	3,302.00	cu.m.
20	Aggregate Sub-base Course	1,338.36	cu.m.
21	Aggregate Base Course	1,152.36	cu.m.
31	Portland Cement Concrete Pavement, Class "A", 3,500 psi	1,042.40	sq.m.
44(1)	Structural Concrete, Class "A" (3,500 psi)	46.82	cu.m.
44(2)	Structural Concrete, Class "B", 2,400 psi	3.65	cu.m.
43	Reinforcing Steel	3,745.60	kg.
50(4)	910mm dia. RCPC	52.00	ln.m.
52	Stone Masonry for Headwalls	21.84	cu.m.

Minimum Equipments Required

Bulldozer, (2 units) owned; Vibratory Road Roller (9 ton min., 1 unit) owned; Road Grader (1 unit) owned; Portable one bagger concrete mixer (4 units) owned; concrete vibrator (4 units) owned; vibratory plate compactor (1 unit) owned; Payloader (1 unit) owned; Dump Trucks (4 units) owned; Water Truck (1 unit) owned and Survey Instrument, leased or owned.

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by the interested bidders at the BAC Secretariat Office of the Municipality of La Libertad, Province of Zamboanga del Norte starting October 3, 2005 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM upon payment of a non-refundable fee of PHP 3,000.00 for each set. Pre-bid conference will be held in the same address on October 20, 2005 at 10:00 AM.

Bids shall be valid for a period of 90 days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a security deposit of PHP80,000.00 in the form of; Cash, Certified Check, Manager's Check, Bank Guarantee, on a freely convertible currency, and shall be delivered to the BAC Secretariat Office of the Municipality of La Libertad, Province of Zamboanga del Norte on or before the Bid closing date on November 3, 2005 at 10:00 AM at which time the Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.

The LGU-BAC ARCDPII of La Libertad, Zamboanga del Norte reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate indemnify to the contractor/bidder for any expenses that they may incur in the preparation of bid and to accept the lowest evaluated, responsive and complying bid.

(SGD) ENGR. MARIO NATCHER
Chairman, LGU-BAC-ARCDPII

(PDI – October 2, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
HOUSING AND LAND USE REGULATORY BOARD
Cordillera Administrative Region
Botanical Garden, Leonard Wood Road, Baguio City
Tel. No. 4425338

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that **MR. ALEXIS R. CRUZ-HERRERA**, Marketing Director of **Lexber, Incorporated** has filed with the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board a sworn registration statement for the sale of house and lot units at the **Regal-Lexber Homes Prime** (Main Project-PD 957) located at Yagyagan, Tadiangan, Tuba, Benguet, specifically identified/described under Psd-CAR-010837 and that the registration statement and all papers attached thereto are available for inspection during business hours by any person having legal interest thereon; and that upon proper application, copies thereof shall be furnished to such person upon payment of the proper fee.

Any person with valid objection in the registration of the project may file his/her objection in writing with the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board, Botanical Garden, Leonard Wood Road, Baguio City, not later than fifteen (15) days from the date of the last publication.

City of Baguio, Philippines, 21st day of September 2005.

(Sgd.) REBECCA F. TORRES

(PDI – October 2, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
HOUSING AND LAND USE REGULATORY BOARD
Cordillera Administrative Region
Botanical Garden, Leonard Wood Road, Baguio City
Tel. No. 4425338

PAUNAWA

Ipinauunawa na si **MR. ALEXIS R. CRUZ-HERRERA**, MarketingDirector of **Lexber, Inc.**, ay naghaharap sa Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board ng isang panunumpang nakatala para sa bilihan ng mga lote at bahay ng subdibisyon sa **Regal-Lexber Homes Prime** (Socialized Housing Project) na matatagpuan sa Yagyagan, Tadiangan, Tuba, Benguet na sinakop ng Psd-CAR-010837; na ang nakatalang pahayag at ang lahat ng kasulatang nilalaman doon ay nakahanda sa pagsusuri ng sinumang tao na nagtataglay ng interes na naayon sa batas sa pagkaraan ng wastong aplikasyon; at ang mga kasulatan ay ibibigay sa nabanggit na tao pagkatapos ng kaukulang bayad.

Sinumang tao na may kapani-paniwalang pagtutol sa pagkatala ng proyekto ay maaaring magbigay ng nilagdaang pagtutol sa Housind and Land Use Regulatory Board, Botanical Garden, Leonard Wood Road, Baguio City, nang hindi lalampas sa loob ng sampung (10) araw mula sa pikahuling pagkalathala.

Lungsod ng Baguio, Pilipinas, ika-21 ng Septyembre 2005.

(Sgd.) REBECCA F. TORRES
Regional Officer

(PDI – October 2, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
BOARD OF INVESTMENTS
Industry & Investments Building
385 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue
Makati City

Fax No.: (02) 895-8322
Tel. Nos. (02) 897-6682
(02) 890-1322

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the application of **ENTHEOS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, INC.** with address at 3/F LG Sinco IT Center, Foundation University Main Campus, Dr. Miciano Road, Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental for registration with the Board of Investments under Book 1 of the Omnibus Investments Code of 1987, otherwise known as E.O. 226, as Amended, as New ICT-Enabled Service in the Field of Medical Transcription and with proposed plant site at (same as in above address) has been officialy accepted on 29 September 2005 and is currently being processed.

Any person with valid objections to or pertinent comments on the above-mentioned application may file his/her objection in writing and under oath, with the BOI within one (1) week from the date of this publication.

Issued this 29th days of September 2005.

RUDY B. CAÑA
Director
Project Evaluation and Registration Department

(PDI - Oct. 2, 2005)

THE HERITAGE PARK
FORT BONIFACIO
Funeral Home and Crematory
845-2334 to 38; 845-2440

OBITUARIES

RATE
P245 per column centimeter
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for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

I am
the
way,
the truth
and
the life.
No one
comes
to the
Father
except
through
Me.

John 14:6

Message of Thanks

For visiting us and being with us
in our time of sorrows...
For praying with us and for us...
For the Mass cards and messages
of sympathy and condolence...
For the beautiful flowers to express
compassion...
For joining us in our nightly vigil...
For attending the masses and funeral rites...
For thinking of us in our grief...
For all that you have done to console
our hearts...

Our sincerest gratitude.
From the Family of the late

Ang Chay Pue

78 years old
April 11, 1927 - September 7, 2005

Our Sincere Thanks

The family of the late PCGG and Comelec chairman ***Haydee B. Yorac*** wish to convey our deep gratitude and sincere appreciation to all those who offered masses, prayers and donations, sent flowers, mass cards and letters of sympathy, attended masses and funeral rites and who, in countless ways, stood by our side to ease our pain, in our moment of deepest sorrow. May ***Haydee's*** legacy of integrity and credibility, righteousness and dedication to public service be an inspiration to us all and remain in our hearts and minds forever.

May God hold ***Haydee*** in the palm of His Hands until we all meet again.

Memories

"Memory... is the endearment that we all carry about with us."

The Inquirer National Classifieds brings forth the second in a series of its tabloid-sized supplement dubbed as "Memories," to be published on October 20, 2005 in time for the remembrance of our beloved loved ones.

The special pullout section is dedicated to pre-need plans, funeral homes, memorial parks and other product/services related to death care. This endeavor will give you a chance to showcase your product lines and the attributes that your services offer.

This special supplement shall provide maximum media mileage to you, our advertisers. For your wise investment, we are offering the following perks:

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+ Reasonable price.

AD SIZE	WIDTH x HEIGHT	AMOUNT
FULL PAGE	24.6 cms x 30 cms	56,595.00
HALF PAGE	24.6 cms x 15 cms	28,297.50
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1/8 PAGE	12.3 cms x 7.5 cms	7,074.38

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DEADLINE: October 14, 2005

· Free copies of the Memories Supplement to be distributed at selected memorial parks on November 1, 2004.

Circulated in Metro Manila and backed by the Philippine Daily Inquirer, the most read broadsheet in the land, this promises to be a most cost efficient and effective venture.

To find out more about the supplement, please contact:
Ms. Aileen A. Garcia - Tel. 912-9009, 421-1420
Ms. Adela G. Mendoza - Tel. 421-0343, 912-9011
or email at agarcia@inquirer.com.ph.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
The Power of Knowing

Message of Thanks

We, the family and brothers and sisters of

ESMERALDO NICOLAS LAPUS

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to you our relatives and friends who condoled with us in our time of mourning. We were greatly consoled by your affectionate expressions of sympathy, as well as by your loving prayers for the repose of his soul.

Though he is gone in body from our midst, we can feel his spirit moving among us. We encourage those who knew him to not let the good that he has done be interred with his bones, but be memorialized in their lives through a renewed dedication to their work and families.

Message from the family: **Ida** (widow); children **Rachel**, **Irene**, **Pot** & **Che**, **Beck** & **Carissa**, **Bart**, **Tere**, **Kiko**; granddaughter **Nikki**; brothers and sisters – **Catalina**, **Sis. Irene**, **OP**, **Bart**, **Fr. Louis**, **SVD**, **Ted**, **Manny** and **Charlie**.

Feliza Licad Vda. De Calma
"Lola Ima"

MAY 22, 1903 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

Peacefully joined our Creator
at the age of 102

Her loving husband GREGORIO CALMA(+), children JOSE (+), LOR & TELLY, PABLING & MARIBEL, MILING & FRANCESCA, CIDRING & RODA, JOE & LINDA and SOL & DING, grandchildren and other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for her eternal rest and everlasting happiness.

Her body lies in state at Chapel 6, of the Mortuary and Crematory at The Heritage Park, Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, October 5, 2005 at The Heritage Park after the 3:00 PM Mass.

Mortuary and Crematory at THE HERITAGE PARK

Conrado F. Ciriaco

13 September 1929 - 30 September 2005

Conrado F. Ciriaco - devoted husband to Luz, loving father to six children and doting grandfather to nineteen grandchildren, have been granted eternal rest and joined our Creator. Relatives, friends, colleagues and fellow numismatists & antiquarians are enjoined to offer Mass and prayers of thanksgiving for a life well-lived. A simple, but truly "unique" individual known for honesty & integrity in his profession; love & loyalty in his personal life; devotion & faithfulness in his spiritual life.

His remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Chapels in Guadalupe, Makati City (please call 8951011 local 224) where you may visit or if you wish to share with us your message, please e-mail us at ciriaco@pacific.net.ph. Interment tentatively set on Wednesday morning, 5th of October 2005.

**Whoever
finds
his life
will
lose it,
and
whoever
loses
his life
for my
sake will
find it.**

Matthew
10:39

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

Excelsa Zenarosa Balce

MAY 27, 1925 – SEPTEMBER 29, 2005

Her bereaved husband, Samuel; sister, Sor Estrella Zenarosa D.C.; children Al, Frankie, Sieg, Bubut and Juteng; in-law, and grandchildren ask the pious reader to include her in their prayers.

Her remains lie in state at the family residence in Vinzons, Camarines Norte.

There will be a funeral mass at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 2, 2005 after which her remains will be brought to her final resting place at the Vinzons Municipal Cemetery.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

We, the family and relatives of the late

Ramon Antillon Dimaculangan

who joined his Creator on September 16, 2005

sincerely convey our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers, visited and kept vigil, attended the funeral rites and condoled with us in our moment of grief.

In Loving Memory
on the Sixth Death Anniversary
of

CONRADO C. CAIMOL

Who peacefully joined his Creator on October 2, 1999.

Holy Masses will be offered today October 2, 2005 at the following churches:

9:00 AM	St. Patrick's Church, San Francisco, CA
6:00 PM	Queen of All Saints, Concord, CA
6:00 PM	Mary the Queen Church, San Juan, M.M.
6:15 AM	Sanctuario de San Jose, Mandaluyong City
6:15 PM	Sanctuario de San Antonio, Makati City
6:15 PM	Lourdes Church, Quezon City

Please join us in prayer for the eternal repose of his soul.

"Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again."
2 Cor. 5:4-5

Always caring...

OBITUARIES
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
CLASSIFIEDS

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CLASSIFIEDS

NFA assures affordable rice in Caraga

IMMEDIATELY after assuming his post as new regional director of the National Food Authority for the Caraga region, director Edgar S. Bentulan made the rounds of markets in this city to ensure the stable supply and prices of government rice. Bentulan also instructed the local Palengke Watch teams of the agency to extensively keep track of the supply and prices of the commodity as well as monitor the compliance by the agency's accredited retailers to the rules and regulations on rice trading under the Philippine Grains Standardization program. He also ordered all the accredited retailers to sell NFA rice from the opening to the closing time of their respective outlets, all days of the week and at the government-set prices of P16 and P18 per kilogram for regular-milled and well-milled rice, respectively.

Meanwhile, during the recent induction ceremonies of the newly-elected officers of the local Grains Retailers Association (Grecon), Bentulan stressed the role of retailers in the development of the grains industry, particularly in the Caraga region. He solicited the commitment of the retailers to the efforts of the food agency in ensuring the food security of the region in the basic staple.

Kagawaran ng Ugnayang Panlabas — Department of Foreign Affairs

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
2330 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, Metro Manila
Bids and Awards Committee

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Department of Foreign Affairs-Bids and Awards Committee (DFA-BAC) is inviting interested bidders to apply for eligibility and bid in the re-bidding for the:

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF CONSTRUCTION SUPPLIES FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE RESTROOMS OF THE DFA BUILDING

Interested bidders may acquire bid documents from **03 to 14 October 2005**, at the BAC Secretariat, Office of the Undersecretary for Administration, 12th Floor, DFA Bldg, 2330 Roxas Blvd. Pasay City, (tel nos. 834-4066 and fax nos. 831-95-84), upon submission of Letter of Intent and payment of a **non-refundable fee** of One Thousand Pesos (Php 1,000.00) to the Cashier's Office, Office of Fiscal Management, 4th Floor, DFA Building, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.

Approved Budget for the Contract: **PhP2,137,655.00**

The Eligibility/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9134 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)

ACTIVITIES	DATE/TIME
Pre-bid Conference	24 October 2005
Last Day of Submission of Bid Requirements	07 November 2005 (2:00 pm)
Opening of Eligibility Requirements, Technical and Financial Proposals	07 November 2005 (3:00 p.m.)

DFA-BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reasons, and to waive any deficiencies and required formalities embodied therein. DFA-BAC assumes no obligations whatsoever to offset the expenses and/or losses the bidder may have incurred in the preparation of the bids. DFA-BAC further reserves the right to declare a failure of bid, and/or not to award the contract, and makes no assurances that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) FRANKLIN M. EBDALIN
Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs
and Chairman, DFA-BAC

(PDI - Oct. 2 & 9, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
Center for Health Development 4
BATANGAS REGIONAL HOSPITAL
Training & Teaching
(Batangas City)

September 28, 2005

INVITATION TO BID

The Batangas Regional Hospital, Batangas City is inviting qualified suppliers, dealers and manufacturers to supply various Drugs and Medicines, Medical, Surgical, X-ray supplies, Laboratory Reagents and I.T. Devices (Computer, Server, and others)

Items/Description	Approved Budget for the Contract	Pre-Bid Conference	Deadline/ Opening of Bids	Price of Bid Documents (Non-refundable)
Drugs/Medicines	P5,000,000.00	Nov. 8, 2005 9:30 a.m.	Nov. 23, 2005 10:00 a.m.	P1,000.00
Medical/ Surgical/ Laboratory/ Radiology Supplies	10,000,000.00	Nov. 8, 2005 9:30 a.m.	Nov. 24, 2005 10:00 a.m.	P1,000.00
I.T. Devices (Computer, Server, others)	1,000,000.00	Nov. 8, 2005 11:00 a.m.	Nov. 25, 2005 10:00 a.m.	P1,000.00

The Bid documents shall be available at the SUPPLY OFFICE starting October 20, 2005 to November 4, 2005 upon payment of non-refundable fee indicated above.

The Pre-bid Conference shall be held at the Conference Room, Batangas Regional Hospital, Batangas City.

The bidder shall drop their duly accomplished eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals in three (3) separate sealed envelopes in the bid box located at the above-mentioned address

BRH reserves the right to waive any formalities in the responses to the eligibility requirements and to this invitation. BRH further reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) ARCELI S. HERNANDEZ, MD, FPCP, MHA
Chairman, Bids & Awards Committee
(PDI- Oct. 2 & 9, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education (DepEd)
SECONDARY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (SEDIP)
National Project Management Office (NPMO)
5th Floor, Bonifacio Building, DepEd Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City
Telephone Nos. 635-98-22; 631-0673; Telefax No. 635-9826

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date : September 28, 2005
Loan No. : PH-P200
IFRB No.: SEDIP-2005-FURN-JBIC

1. The Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Education (DepED) has received a loan from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) in Japanese Yen towards financing the cost of Secondary Education Development and Improvement Project (SEDIP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contracts for the supply and delivery of Furniture to Selected Secondary Schools in the Philippines.
2. The DepED through the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of school furniture for classrooms, science laboratories, home economics, industrial arts, libraries, faculty rooms and guidance rooms of the different secondary schools in the ten (10) Division Offices under SEDIP, following the schedules below:

Division Office	Start of Issuance of Bid Documents	Time and Date of Pre-Bid Conference	Time and Date of Bid Opening	Venue	Telephone No.
Agusan del Sur	October 5, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 14, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 28, 2005	Division Office of Agusan del Sur, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	(085)242-3958
Antique	October 5, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 14, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 28, 2005	Division Office of Antique San Jose, Antique	(036)320-1321
Guimaras	October 5, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 14, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 28, 2005	Division Office of Guimaras, Jordan, Guimaras	(033)237-1322
Surigao del Sur	October 5, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 14, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 28 2005	Division Office of Surigao del Sur, Tandag, Surigao del Sur	(086)211-3970
Biliran	October 5, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 14, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 28, 2005	Division Office of Biliran Naval, Biliran	(053)500-9279
Leyte	October 5, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 14, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 28 2005	Division Office of Leyte, Palo, Leyte	(053)323-9648
Negros Oriental	October 5, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 14, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 28, 2005	Division Office of Negros Oriental, Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental	(035)422-7643
North Cotabato	October 5, 2005	10:00 a.m October 14, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 28, 2005	Division Office of North Cotabato, Kidapawan City, North Cotabato	(064)278-7017/ (064)278-4144
Romblon	October 5, 2005	10:00 a.m October 14, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 28, 2005	Division Office of Romblon, Romblon, Romblon	(054)472-8218
Southern Leyte	October 5, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 14, 2005	10:00 a.m. October 28, 2005	Division Office of Southern Leyte, Maasin City, Southern Leyte	(053)570-9974

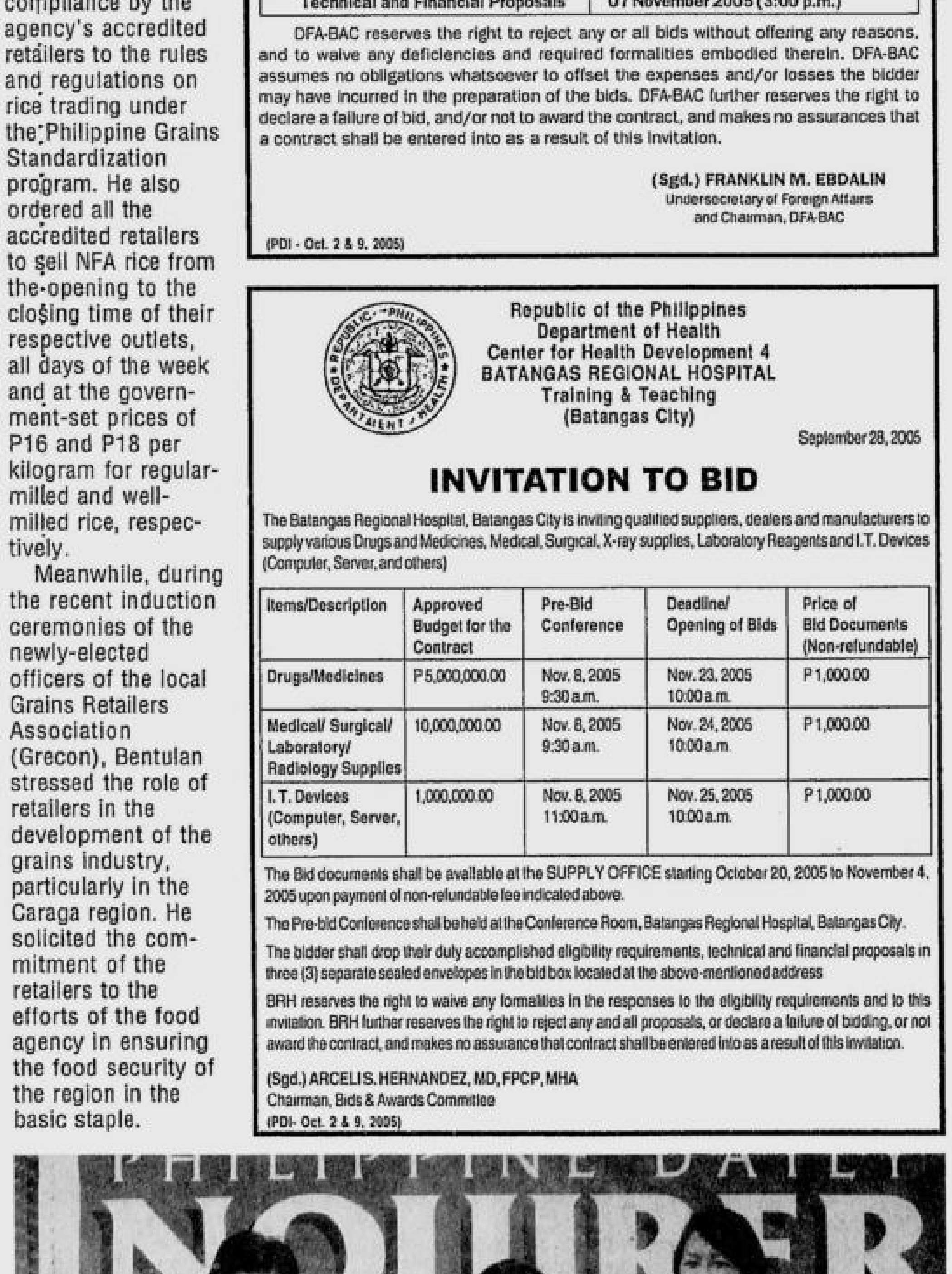
3. Bidders are required to submit bid for the complete quantity of all the furniture items intended for the schools in each Division per schedule of requirements of the bidding documents and as summarized below:

Agusan del Sur Classroom Furniture (45 packages) Science Laboratory Furniture (7 packages) Home Economics Furniture (2 packages) Library Furniture (4 packages) Faculty Room Furniture (6 packages) Guidance Room Furniture (2 packages) Industrial Arts Furniture (4 packages)	**Antique** Classroom Furniture (41 packages) Science Laboratory Furniture (7 packages) Home Economics Furniture (3 packages) Library Furniture (5 packages) Faculty Room Furniture (3 packages) Guidance Room Furniture (1 package) Industrial Arts Furniture (1 package)	**Surigao del Sur** Classroom Furniture (45 packages) Science Laboratory Furniture (5 packages) Home Economics Furniture (2 packages) Library Furniture (1 package) Faculty Room Furniture (1 package) Guidance Room Furniture (1 package)
Guimaras Classroom Furniture (18 packages) Science Laboratory Furniture (3 packages) Library Furniture (1 package) Faculty Room Furniture (1 package) Industrial Arts Furniture (2 packages)	**Biliran** Classroom Furniture (7packages) Science Laboratory Furniture (1 package) Library Furniture (2 packages) Faculty Room Furniture (2 packages) Guidance Room Furniture (2 packages) Industrial Arts Furniture (1 package)	**Leyte** Classroom Furniture (19 packages) Science Laboratory Furniture (1 package) **Negros** Classroom Furniture (25 packages) Science Laboratory Furniture (3 packages)
North Cotabato Classroom Furniture (31 packages) Science Laboratory Furniture (3 packages) Home Economics Furniture (1 package) Library Furniture (2 packages)	**Romblon** Classroom Furniture (24 packages) Science Laboratory Furniture (1 package) Faculty Room Furniture (2 packages)	**Southern Leyte** Classroom Furniture (14 packages) Science Laboratory Furniture (5 packages) Home Economics Furniture (1 package) Library Furniture (3 packages) Faculty Room Furniture (2 packages) Industrial Arts Furniture (1 package)

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain complete information about the proposed project upon submission of a Letter of Intent and acquire the bidding documents from the concerned Division BAC Offices with telephone numbers and addresses listed in paragraph 2 or may visit the DepED website at http://www.deped.gov.ph or the Procurement Service at http://www.procurementservice.org.
5. Bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders starting on the date stated in paragraph 2 upon payment to the Cashier of the Division Office of a non-refundable fee of Three Hundred Pesos (P300.00) only.
6. Sealed bids, together with the bid security of equivalent percentage for the total bid amount as specified in ITB-7 page 5 of the Instructions to Bidders, must be delivered to the respective offices of the Division BAC at the time, date and place as indicated in the above paragraph 2. Said bids will be opened immediately for reading in public in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.
7. The Division BAC concerned reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality therein and award the furniture packages to one or more bidders.

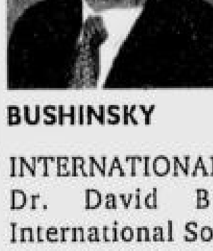
(Sgd.) ATTY. MACUR D. MAROHOMBSAR
Vice-Chair, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - Oct. 2 & 9, 2005)

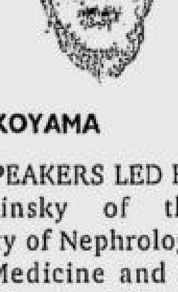


MOA SIGNING between Philippine Daily Inquirer and the Philippine Association of Realtors Boards (PAREB) in line of Pareb 45th Annual National Convention on October 13-15, at Dynasty Hotel, Cagayan de Oro City. Keynote speaker will be Honorable Rodolfo G. Valencia, Representative from 1st District of Oriental Mindoro. Guest speakers are Cagayan de Oro Gov. Oscar Moreno and Mayor Vicente Emano. Seated are Bobby Sy, PAREB National President and Jesse Francis N. Rebustillo, Classified ads Division Head. Witnessing the signing are Lourdes C. Diaz, Classified Sales Manager, Aileen A. Garcia Cubao Branch Manager and Adela G. Mendoza Cubao Account Executive.

Foreign speakers topbill PSN confab



BUSHINSKY



KOYAMA

INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS LED BY Dr. David Bushinsky of the International Society of Nephrology and professor of Medicine and of Pharmacology and Physiology, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Katsushi Koyama of Japan will topbill the 7th Midyear Convention of the Philippine Society of Nephrology (Theme: "Stones, Bones and Nephrons") to be hosted by its Central and Eastern Visayas Chapters on Oct. 2-4 at the Mactan Shangri-La Island Resort and Spa, Cebu.

Moldex named 'Top Real Estate' company

IN TWO RECENT SUCCESSIVE EVENTS, MOLDEX Realty Marketing, Inc. (MRMI) was awarded 2005's Best Real Estate Marketing Company and 2005's Top Real Estate Company (National level) by the National Product Quality Excellence Awards and National Shoppers Choice Awards, respectively. These awards are proof on MRMI's continuous saga to provide the best services and projects to the general public.

To-date, Moldex projects have literally become Philippine landmarks that bear the distinct imprint of marketing and product excellence. Its Metrogate and Heritage Homes projects, located in and within the outskirts of mega Manila, are now recognized residential enclaves delivering superior and innovative project concepts ranging from self-contained communities to luxury estates and affordable housing projects. In turn, its maiden vertical development, the 1322 Roxas Boulevard Golden Empire Tower, is the tallest residential condominium project along the historical strip of Manila bay and is now ready for occupancy.

For its loyal business partners, Moldex created a unique selling environment where brokers and agents became more productive. "2004 sales volume doubled as compared to 2003 and continued at an even higher rate for the first up to the third quarter of this year," revealed MRMI's president, Louie Icasiano.

Moldex Realty Marketing, Inc. (MRMI) was once again awarded as 2005's top real estate company (National level) by the National Shoppers Choice Award. This is the second year that MRMI was given this distinction. Receiving the award is MRMI's president, Louie E. Icasiano (center) with group heads (from left), Fe Arellano, Jessica Hernandez, Alzon Gotiangco, Kenneth Blanco, Vida Cagurangan and Beverly Roque.

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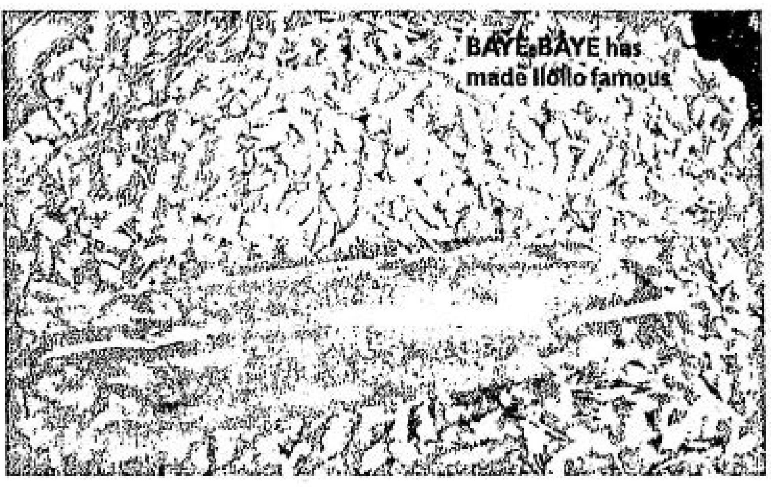
Sunday BIZ

Rice delicacy rescues family from poverty

By Ma. Diosa Labiste
PDI Visayas Bureau



BAYE-BAYE has made Iloilo famous

PAVIA, ILOILO—THANKS TO A bit of luck and a lot of hard work, a couple who described themselves as "formerly dirt poor," is now much admired for their success in making "*baye-baye*" rice delicacy.

Rodolpo Hachero, 49 and his wife Gina, 42, are owners of Polding's Baye-baye, which produces the delicacy sold in the malls, restaurants and *pasalubong* counters in Iloilo City.

Today, some eight years after they started their "baye-baye" business, the Hachero couple has not only taken their family out of poverty, but also cemented the reputation of their barangay as the "baye-baye" capital of Iloilo.

Baye-baye is a traditional rice-based delicacy in Iloilo made of ground rice, sticky rice or corn mixed with sugar and grated coconut.

But in Barangay Cabugao Sur, Pavia town where the Hacheros' live, "baye-baye" is made of finely grounded *pinipig* (crisp, flattened rice flakes), sugar and grated coconut.

Baye-baye has the same ingredients as "*espasol*" with some important differences. It is not rolled in rice flour, unlike espasol.

RICE/ B3

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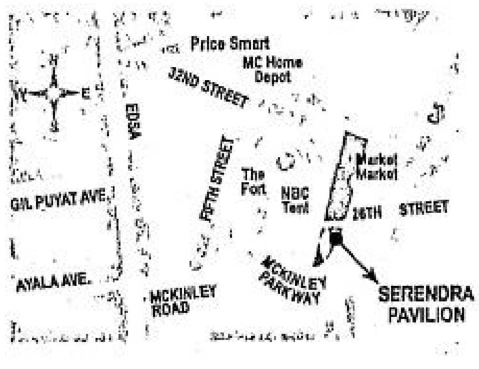

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Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

Getting our due in JAPAN

TOURISM Secretary Joseph Ace Durano (in barong) with global counterparts at the opening of the Jata World Travel Fair in Tokyo; (left) The award-winning Philippine pavilion in Aichi

The Philippines flies high with a succession of awards and well-received appearances in Aichi and Tokyo

Text and photos by Alex Y. Vergara

SIMPLY BEING A FILIPINO IN Japan these days is already a reason to be proud.

Some months before Precious Lara Quigaman won Miss International in Tokyo, Filipinos, led by Department of Tourism Secretary Joseph Ace Durano, had been winning awards and earning standing ovations from their Japanese hosts at the Aichi World Expo.

Durano graced the Expo's closing week recently with a Filipino contingent composed of colleagues, performers and executives from the travel and tourism industries. From Aichi, Durano and company proceeded to Tokyo a few days later to participate in the Jata World Travel Fair and launch DOT's latest campaign in Japan dubbed as "An Island in Your Name" (*see sidebar*). Philippine Ambassador to Japan Domingo Siazon also graced both occasions.

Durano, indefatigable and young at 37, made no secret of the importance his office places on the lucrative but very discriminating Japanese market. DOT has thus anchored its current campaign to lure Japanese to the country on "nature and wellness."

This thrust is reflected in both the Philippine booth at Jata and the award-winning Philippine pavilion in Aichi. Made almost entirely from various parts of the coconut tree, the pavilion designed by Ed Calma was a virtual oasis that provided weary guests with a soothing and holistic experience ranging from aromatherapy and massages to delicious Filipino dishes prepared by Via Mare's Glenda Barretto.

The restaurant's *halo-halo* proved to be a big hit among Expo visitors who had to brave the summer heat. In keeping with the pavilion's "seeds of life" theme, Barretto named her latest venture Latik. Adventurous Japanese also went crazy for her chicken *adobo* with coconut milk, fried *lumpia* with shreds of tender coconut flesh, *pinakbet* and *relyenong bangus*.

Modest budget

Although the Expo was billed as an international event participated in by over a hundred countries, almost 95 percent of its visitors came from Japan. Everyone put their best foot forward to appeal to this market.

Durano and colleagues led by Expo commissioner general Rosvi Gaetos and pavilion director Arcie Soriano, made sure the DOT's modest budget of $2 million was well-spent on a simple but unique pavilion that conformed with the Expo's "nature's wisdom" theme.

They were supported by collaborators such as Silk Cocoon and sponsors like Philippine Airlines, which provided free or discounted tickets to government officials, performers and media persons.

The Philippine team's efforts weren't lost on Japanese visitors, who patiently lined up everyday outside the pavilion to sample vignettes of Filipino culture, including free foot and back massages from trained Filipino masseuses.

DOT's efforts paid off handsomely as early as June when the Philippine pavilion bested 40 other countries for the Gold Award in Category C. Formal ceremonies were held two Saturdays ago.

The said category involved pavilions that occupied a single unit or module. Countries such as Australia, Korea, Spain, Thailand and the United States, to name a few, belonged to a different category owing to their bigger and more expensive pavilions.

"Our pavilion may be small compared to some of our neighbors, but it still managed to appeal to Expo judges, who appreciated the concept that went into it," said Gaetos. "Once again the collaborative efforts between the private and public sectors worked."

Awards

Indeed, glitz and technology can only go so far. Australia, for instance, reportedly spent as much as $40 million for its huge, high-tech

GETTING/ C2

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PDI 10 02 05

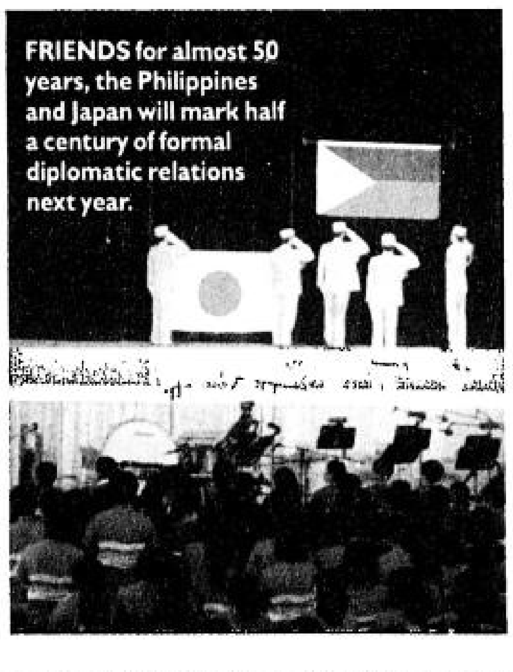
DESPITE the technical glitch, Filipino performers manage to dance with gusto at the Expo Dome on the occasion of Philippine National Day.

Getting our due in JAPAN

GLENDA Barretto with two satisfied Japanese customers

PHILIPPINE
フィリピン

DURANO and Expo Commissioner General Rosvi Gaetos with "Coco," the Philippine mascot inspired by the tarsier of Bohol



FRIENDS for almost 50 years, the Philippines and Japan will mark half a century of formal diplomatic relations next year.

From page C1

pavilion, but the country was unable to clinch a single award. Malaysia anchored its campaign on "natural," yet its pavilion teemed with tacky artificial objects.

"Ours is probably the only pavilion where visitors can see, taste, smell and be touched by the caring and soothing hands of our countrymen," said Soriano. "Everybody who enters our pavilion is awed. There's a story behind each item featured in the series of showcases."

The Philippines also won a couple of Global Eco-Tech awards for its coco coir entry. Developed by Justin Arboleda, the technology makes use of coconut husk to fashion huge nets used to cover mountains and mitigate soil erosion.

Through DOT's efforts, there have been inquiries from curious Japanese tourists, but the full effects of the campaign have yet to be felt as Japanese travelers usually plan their trips at least a year ahead.

Spa tourism

Also known as "spa tourism," the Philippine campaign prepared by Japan-based Kyodo PR directly appeals to single Japanese women in their 20s and 30s. To a people constantly under stress, however, such a pitch actually transcends age and gender.

"A total of 380,000 Japanese visited the country last year," says Durano. "We hope to break the 500,000 mark by 2007 by positioning the country to this segment composed of single Japanese women with plenty of disposable income."

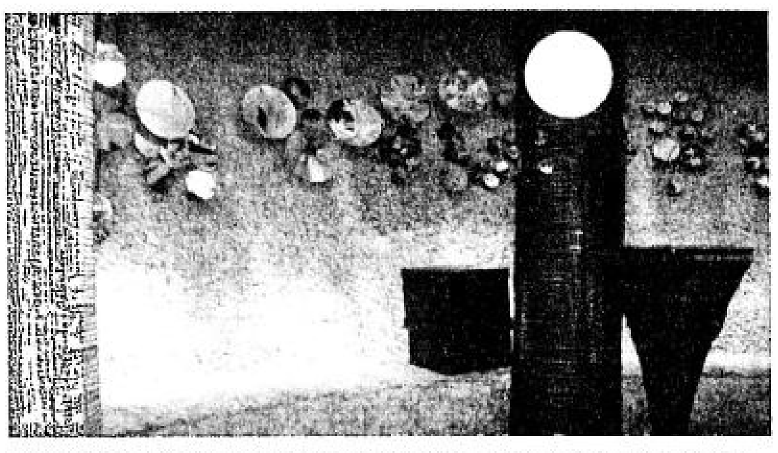
Japanese tourists may comprise a fraction of the five million visitors DOT hopes to lure to the country by 2010, but this group is known in the region as big spenders. According to a DOT study, the average Japanese visitor spends $90 a day on food, shopping, entertainment and local travel. In dollar terms, DOT hopes to generate for the country $5 billion in tourism receipts five years from now.

"The amount ($90) excludes the travel package they already bought in Japan," said Durano, who also reaffirmed the country's ties with Japanese travel agencies by providing them with various incentives and updated travel brochures.

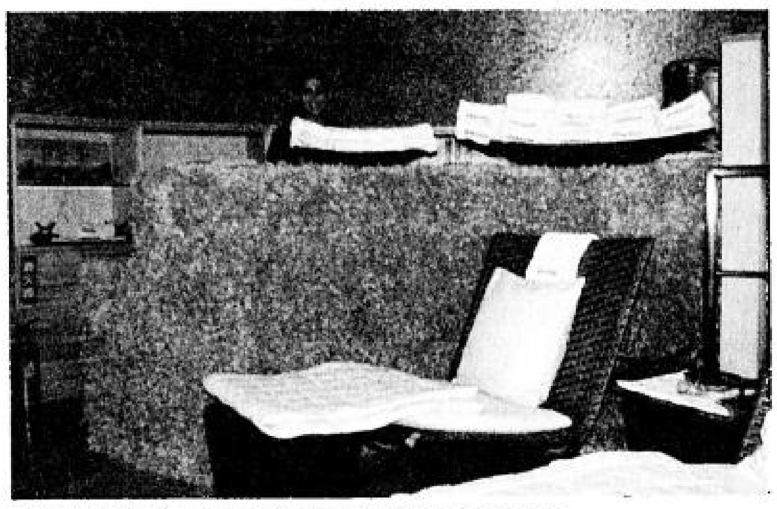
"For the longest time, arrivals from Japan were stagnant," he added. "We hope to turn this around by renewing our ties with Japan's top travel wholesalers. If these guys don't include you in their list of travel packages, your country does not exist."

Premium islands

To differentiate the Philippines from other beach destinations in the region, DOT describes the country as clusters of "premium resort islands." It seems "Koko Doko" ("Where is this?" in Japanese), the thrust of Kyodo PR's campaign, was intentionally spun around the coconut or anything that sounded like it.



THE PAVILION'S sphere of wellness where weary visitors can take a break as they await their turn to get a foot and back massage upstairs



THE MASSAGE area at the pavilion's second deck

The campaign even capitalizes on the market's fondness for anime through "Coco," the beaming Philippine mascot inspired by the tarsier of Bohol. Coco was a big hit with kids and young women at both the Expo and Jata Travel Fair.

Oddly enough, said Durano, the biggest challenge confronting the country's tourism efforts wasn't the peace and order situation, but the lack of four- and five-star hotels. This shortage, in turn, has jacked up room rates, making travel to the country a bit more expensive compared to Malaysia and Thailand.

"The situation has become a sellers' market," he added. "Hotels and resorts have had to turn tourists away because they don't have enough rooms."

As for the country's seeming negative image abroad, Durano has been working hard at countering it with positive spin.

"Without promotions," he said, "the only information they (Japanese) get about the Philippines is from the news. Unfortunately, it's mostly the bad stuff that gets reported in the news."

More creative

Working on a modest budget for its marketing campaign has further inspired the DOT to be more creative in its approach. Instead of placing ads on English-language networks such as CNN and BBC, for instance, it has tapped local media outlets in Japan to reach out directly to more people.

Meanwhile, a day was also set aside in Aichi to mark Philippine National Day, and Filipino performers—all 160 of them—didn't pass up the chance to impress their Japanese audience at the huge Expo Dome with a tableau of song and dance numbers.

The Japanese responded in kind with hearty applause after each vignette. Such was their generosity and appreciation that they applauded—even before the first song was sung—their Filipino guests, who looked resplendent in their barongs and ternos, as they entered the venue and made their way to their seats.

Produced by the Cultural Center of the Philippines, the show featured no less than the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra, Tanghalang Pilipino, Ballet Philippines, Sining Kumintang ng Batangas, Yag-Yag Festival Dancers of Oriental Negros, soprano Rachelle Gerodias, tenor Jon Joven and the Streetboys.

Their initial performance, however, suffered a major hitch as the Expo Dome's sound system conked out in the show's latter half, just as Gerodias and Joven were singing. (And you thought such glitches only happened in the Philippines.) To their credit, the duo didn't allow the absence of working microphones to get in the way of their singing.

And so did the dancers, including the energetic Streetboys, who had to rely on pure memory as they danced and did their gravity-defying routines to the sound of silence. Instead of calling it quits (which would have been quite understandable), the Filipinos proved they were troopers as they kept at it as if nothing had happened.

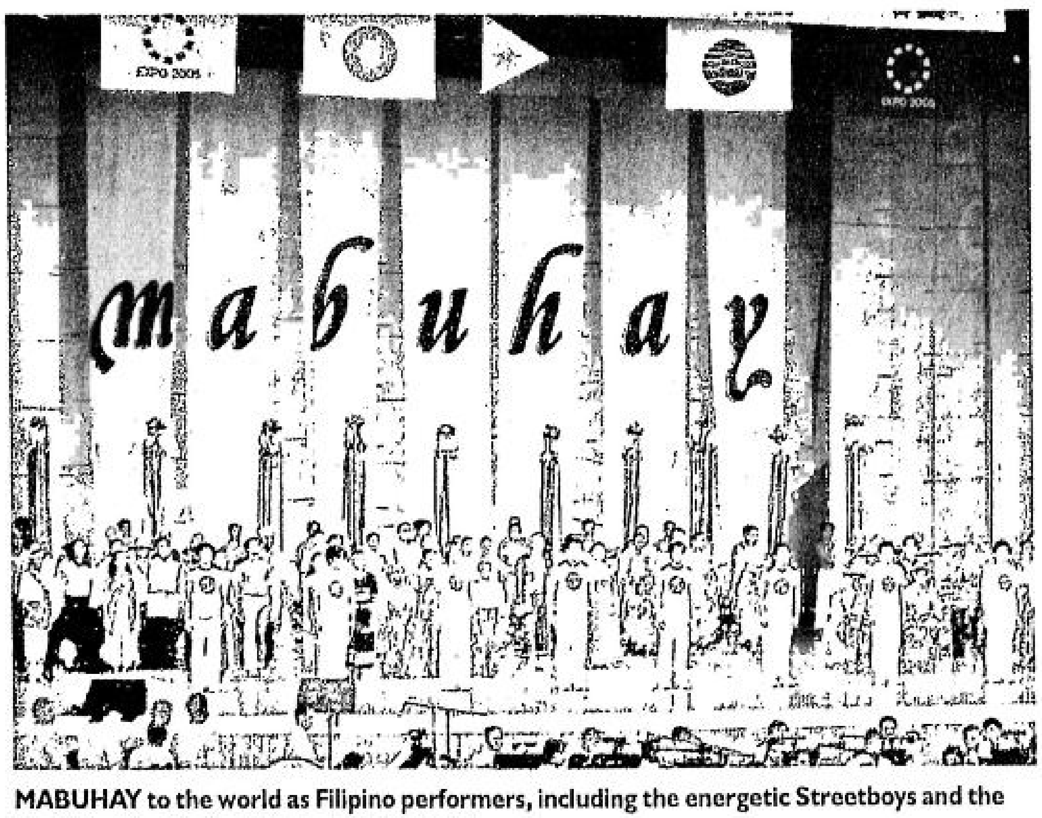
Thankfully, the sound system came back minutes before the show's grand finale. Based on their loud cheers, the audience didn't seem to regret their decision to stay.

"You should have seen their afternoon performance," said a gushing Durano, who also graced a second edition of the show also at the Expo Dome. "This time there were no technical glitches. The Japanese loved their performance so much that they gave our performers a standing ovation."

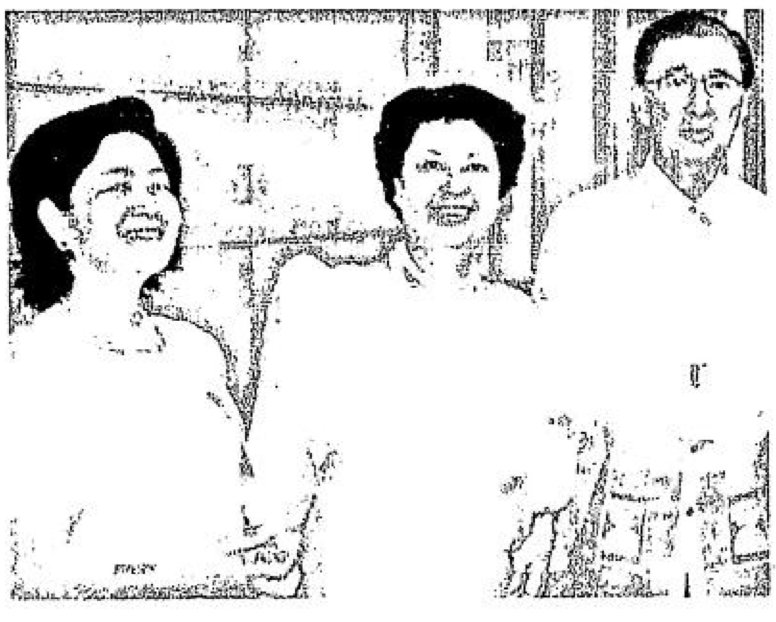
Award or no award, crown or no crown, it was indeed a glorious time to be a Filipino in Japan.

Going to Japan? You may rent a handset from Globe Telecom for P75/day. A subscriber may be charged for a call to the Philippines from ¥220.19 to ¥253/minute depending on the network he or she chooses to use while in Japan. For an incoming call from the Philippines, the subscriber is charged $0.40/minute.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph



MABUHAY to the world as Filipino performers, including the energetic Streetboys and the lively Yag-Yag Festival Dancers, take a bow.



PHILIPPINE pavilion director Arcie Soriano with Philippine Ambassador to Japan Domingo Siazon and wife Kazuko Siazon

VISITORS brave the summer heat as they explore the sprawling Expo site.

Name that island

A PHILIPPINE ISLAND NAMED Tanaka, Inoue or even Koizumi? Don't be surprised.

In its effort to lure more Japanese tourists to the country, the Department of Tourism, through Tourism Secretary Joseph Ace Durano, recently launched a campaign called "An Island in your Name" at a press conference at the Jata World Travel Fair in Tokyo.

The campaign aims to strengthen the country's image as "premium resort islands" by honoring 25 Japanese tourists who bought travel packages to the Philippines from Highest International Standards (H.I.S.), one of Japan's top travel wholesalers.

The contest is open only to tourists who fly Philippine Airlines, one of the contest's major sponsors. The country's flag carrier flies to Japan daily from Manila and Cebu.

Also present during the launch were Akira Hirabayashi of H.I.S. and Genaro Velasquez, PAL's country manager for Japan and Korea.

The 25 lucky winners will have 25 out of the country's 7,107 islands named after them for a period of one year. DOT has ironed out an agreement with the city government of Alaminos, Pangasinan, to have 25 of the famed Hundred Islands tapped for this purpose.

"We chose 25 of the world-renowned Hundred Islands in Pangasinan for two important reasons," said Durano. "Most of the islands are not yet named, and are therefore perfect for this campaign. Moreover, they're easily accessible from Manila if the winners so desire to go and visit their islands."

Durano also took the opportunity to announce that 2006 marks 50 years of formal diplomatic relations between the Philippines and Japan. As such, DOT is preparing a series of programs and promotional activities in Japan, which will culminate in July with several grand Philippine fiestas in Tokyo, Nagoya and Osaka.

Alex Y. Vergara

Call 5259318 or e-mail pcvcnet@dotpcvc.gov.ph. Those based in Japan may call H.I.S. at 03 (5908) 2477.

He loves me, he loves me not?

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcelo

DEAR EMILY

I am an only child, of Chinese descent, 30 years old, divorced, not exactly wealthy but comfortable.

My marriage to an over-possessive and too controlling pure Chinese guy was too short so no kids. It was not an arranged marriage but I could say that we were both roped into it by our parents.

A few years ago in Boston, while doing my post-graduate studies, I shared a condo with two very nice Filipinos, a man and a woman, who were cousins.

We were together for three years. The woman and I graduated with honors but the man, who was the smartest among us, had to ask for an extension. I was shocked when I found out he was unable to finish his studies on time because he wanted to have more time for and with me.

He did my share of the chores and even helped me a lot with my research and thesis. I was too stupid then and yes, abusive. He was my driver, errand guy, nurse, mother/father, friend, everything. There was a year I took to drinking because my first love, who looked like the Hong Kong actor Tony Leung, had to marry his pregnant girlfriend.

Lawrence comforted me, picked me up from the neighborhood bar and made sure I made it to my classes. I thought he was such a cool brother, a soulmate and a very good friend. I was so insensitive and so dense that I even used to sleep on his bed, cried all over him, asked him to hold and sing to me when I was lonely. He called me his chinky baby.

He had the most beautiful, deep voice. He was also a wicked dresser, tall, athletic, witty, gentle, soft-spoken, loving, at times shy and quiet. He was really drop-dead gorgeous. How could I have known that I would be his type?

I am short, a little heavy on the upper part, immature, loud, whiny and grumpy. One day, his cousin and I had a serious talk about him. She asked me, rather gently and nicely, to stop torturing her dear cousin. To give him time and space so he could finish his studies.

I did not realize he had fallen for me. I moved out that night leaving a big basket of flowers for the two kindest friends I ever had with my sincere apologies. The next day I put together a bigger basket of Chinese delicacies and fresh fruits for them, thanking them for their generosity and kindness.

I felt so bad for being so cruel to him. Last month, I met the woman in Singapore and she gave me her cousin's office phone number, cell phone number and e-mail address. He is now a head honcho of a big telecom company. She said it would be nice if I could call him.

He has not married and she said he still often mentioned my name. She even joked that she believed I was the cause of her cousin's lonely eyes. The day I arrived here, I saw him at a hotel in Makati having lunch with two guys and his mother. I did not have the guts to approach him. I wanted to run to him but instead I ran to my car and cried so hard and so long.

He has not changed at all. Had he really loved me when we were in Boston? Why didn't he say anything? If he really wanted me then, why didn't he pursue me? Should I get in touch with him?

I am now working in Makati and I miss him. But I am afraid he might not like me anymore because I had been married. His cousin does not have my phone numbers or address and I don't have hers. She is also not aware that I am now a Makati resident. I am actually based in Singapore but hold a three-year contract here in the Philippines.

ARIANNE

Yes, if he really loved you in Boston, why didn't he say anything?

Some things are so difficult to explain. We look at all sides, at all probabilities, at all the could be's and would be's and find no answers—everything is a big question mark.

Probably the guy thought that, through his kindness, you would have realized he was in love with you. Honestly, I myself don't buy that crap. A real man would write across the sky, scream from every corner so to speak, and do everything in his power to proclaim his love.

Nothing should have deterred him from proclaiming his feelings for you. This song and dance and *"pa-awa"* by his cousin just won't do.

He clearly had personal issues, which I will not even touch on. You may find it derogatory and I wouldn't want to rain on your parade. Suffice it to say that if you want to put closure to this drama, do it.

Ask him to meet you for lunch and lay it all out on the table. If you have fallen in love with him as well after all these years, say it. Just don't expect bugles and drums for your "coming-out party."

Be prepared to be shocked by what he will tell you or pleasantly surprised if what you thought all along is confirmed.

Otherwise, let everything remain a mystery. Let sleeping dogs lie. Some things are better left unsaid, if only to make the past a bit more nostalgic and romantic. Take your pick.

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph. Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to Inquirer. Listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 p.m., Monday to Friday on dwBR 104.3 FM.

Breastfeeding Blessed Mother

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

BABY TICZON GONZALES WAS given the 100-year-old image of Our Lady of La Leche y Buen Parto by her uncle, Ramon Ticzon. She promised she would propagate the devotion to her.

It was five years ago when a replica image was enthroned at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Mandaluyong. Fr. Nick Blanquisco was the parish priest then.

At 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 11, Fr. Nick will celebrate a Mass in honor of Our Lady at the Harrison Plaza Chapel, which is under the Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Leveriza, Malate, where Fr. Nick is now parish priest. It was as if Our Lady wanted Fr. Nick to serve her.

Belen Ticzon-Martel, first cousin of Baby Gonzales and executive vice president of Harrison Plaza, welcomed the Virgin, letting her be enthroned in the chapel. The image greets devotees as they go up the escalator to the second floor chapel.

Since the devotion began to spread, many childless women conceived healthy babies and many would-be mothers had safe delivery.

Our Lady of La Leche, known as the "breastfeeding Blessed Mother," is the patron of breastfeeding advocates particularly Children for Breastfeeding Inc., headed by Dr. Elvira Henares-Esguerra. Her feast day is Oct. 11.

Novena prayer booklets, disposable diapers for the newborn, as well as bottles of vitamins for infants up to one year old will be given away. Mothers, pregnant and childless women are especially invited.

NUESTRA Señora de la Leche image in the Chapel of Mission de Dios in St. Augustine City in Florida

Silver anniversary

It is a blessing to have a friend like Josephine Nacorda Pasricha, University of Santo Tomas professor and writer, who tells me stories about her clan, especially what her grandparents, Valentin and Juliana Nacorda, did when their son, Angel Lagdameo, was a young priest.

Archbishop Lagdameo of Jaro, Iloilo, and the incoming president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) marked recently his 25 years as a bishop with a solemn High Mass at the Jaro Cathedral. Ricardo Cardinal Vidal and Apostolic Nuncio Antonio Franco concelebrated. Children were special guests. Present, too, were relatives and close family friends.

Josephine Pasricha relates, "It has been the tradition for Valentin and Juliana to fetch the young priest, Father Angel, from his old posting and bring him to his new parish—from Quezon to Cebu, then Dumaguete and Jaro." The whole family went by bus or by ship and stayed in the new parish for a week. Lola Juliana brought from her own house new linens, crockery and silverware, providing for the needs of the priest's new house down to the rags.

It broke the heart of Lola Juliana if the new parish was not properly furnished. So family members brought simple gifts like towels and pillowcases and blankets. This caring act of Valentin and Juliana inspired parishioners in other places to welcome new and young priests with a basically furnished house specially in far-flung provinces.

"Now that both Valentin and Juliana and even eldest son Amador are in the other world with God, the three other siblings of the archbishop of Jaro, Dr. Jose Lagdameo, pharmacist Teresita and Dr. Willie Lagdameo still continue the tradition. Members of the Lagdameo, Nacorda, Eleazar, Cuvin, Faller, Acosta, Santamaria, Lucido, Tayengco families fly to Jaro to mark the bishop's 65th birthday, his 40th anniversary as a priest, 25th anniversary as a bishop and his election to the presidency of the CBCP," Josephine said.

Carmelite vocation

The Discalced Carmelite Fathers and Brothers invites male graduating college students and young professionals to attend their search-in at 1 p.m., Oct. 2, Sunday, at the Mt. Carmel Shrine Parish, New Manila, Quezon City.

The search-in aims to help young men find their life's direction and help them decide if they want to become a priest or religious brother. A monthly vocation search-in will be held every first Sunday of the month at the Mt. Carmel Shrine Parish, New Manila, Quezon City. Call 4125173 or text 0920-5595150, 0920-9008141 or 0917-7026830.

Our Lady of Piat

The pilgrim image of Our Lady of Piat will be enthroned today at the Sulu Hotel in Diliman, Quezon City, starting with a Holy Mass at 10 a.m. It will be there until Oct. 6. The image will be transferred to the Clamshell Pavilion in Intramuros for the "Pagayaya Festival" of Cagayan Valley that ends Oct. 14. Sulu Hotel's food festival will be held Oct. 3-14.

Hospice play

The Madre de Amor Foundation will present a play, "Voices for Hospice," at 6 p.m., Oct. 8 (World Hospice and Palliative Care Day) in the Hospice Center, 9957 Amethyst St., Umali Subdivision, Los Baños, Laguna.

The play is based on "Hospices Stories" gathered by Monina Allarey Mercado into a book launched last year at the Filipino Heritage. Other playdates are 3 and 6 p.m., Oct. 14, and 6 p.m., Oct. 15. Major sponsor is National Commission on Culture and the Arts. Call (049)5360644.

St. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish in Ramos, Tarlac will celebrate the feast of St. Therese today. The Parish of St. Therese in Mayon St., Quezon City will hold the fiesta Mass at 9 a.m. Happy feast day, St. Therese!

Himala ng Birhen

ABC Promotions will show "Mga Himala ng Birheng Maria" on Oct. 8, 12 nn-1 p.m. over RPN Channel 9. Hosted by Gino Padilla, the program features real-life healing experiences.

On Oct. 3 at 6 p.m. Fr. Diwane Cacao will hold a healing Mass at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Shrine in Posadas, Muntinlupa. The public is invited.

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Manila, Manila—who says you're 'nada'?

T'NT TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego

THRILLA IN MANILla—Our city lands in the pages of Wallpaper magazine. **Markus Schmidt** of Firma Malate fame sent me an SMS regarding this special and rare treat. Well, it is always interesting what the creative minds of Wallpaper magazine come up with. I mean, now Star City near the Cultural Center does not look as garish, but more "palatable."

In Wallpaper's navigator section, which has a map of the city and the best places to dine, shop and go to, here are the handpicked choices. (Note: Some of them you may not agree with, but, heck, this is Wallpaper! I won't argue with them and just try to keep my thoughts to myself.)

Places to stay: Hyatt (the new one), Mandarin Oriental, Fraser Place, The Peninsula Place

Places to eat: Kai, Le Souffle, Museum Café and Sala.

Places to drink: Bed, Embassy, Figaro at Global Café, Tap Room-Manila Hotel. (What!? Oops, could not resist!)

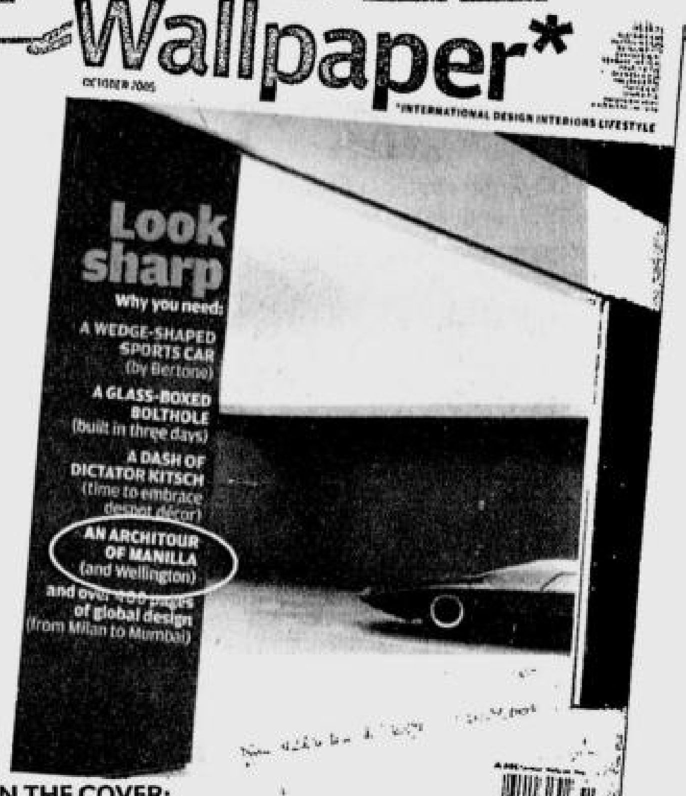
Places to shop: B @ Home, The Drawing Room Gallery (now where is that?), Firma-Malate, Kish.

And finally, places to visit: Ayala Museum, "Marinka" Shoe Museum (I think that's supposed to be Marikina), Fort Santiago and Intramuros, and the CCP.

Other parts of the article that caught my interest were the writer **Chris Moss'** "10 things to do," including rummaging for antiques at Evangelista Street, singing at a comedy karaoke club and watching a Korean cross-dressing show at the Folk Arts Theater. Moss' five things to buy include South Sea pearls in Greenhills, Silk Cocoon shawls and barong Tagalogs at Rustan's.

I spoke to one of the author's interviewees, the Pied Piper of Manila **Carlos Celdran**, who, I must say, is doing such a great job promoting the Intramuros area and its history. (Keep up the good work, Carlos!) He told me the writer stayed here for about

MANILA/ D4



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Navigator Manila

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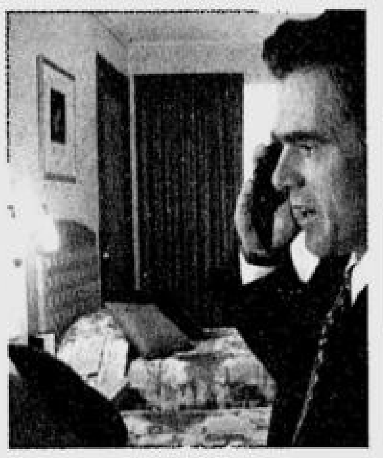
The navigator section of Wallpaper with its choices of places to see, go, buy, dine and stay in Manila



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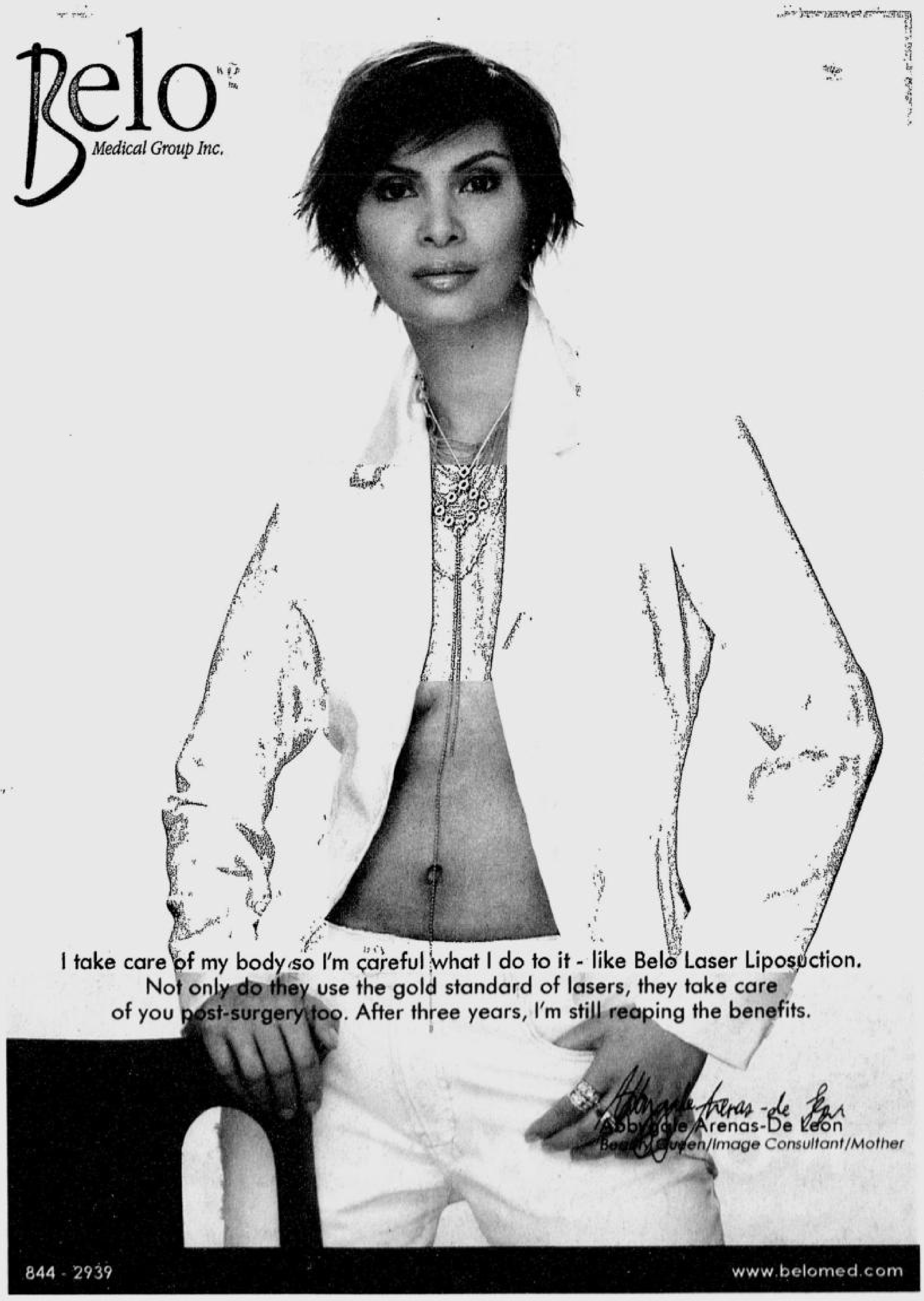

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CANADA'S Honorary Consul in Cebu Robert Lee, Cebu Governor Gwendolyn Garcia, Ms Pek An Lee, and Canadian Ambassador Peter Sutherland

Three-day bash marks Canada Day

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

A THREE-DAY CELEBRATION in Cebu marked Canada's 138th anniversary as a nation. It is very much a part of the British Commonwealth, and its head of state is England's Queen Elizabeth II. Canadian Ambassador Peter Sutherland attended all the events with his lovely wife, Jo Lynne Sutherland.

The success of the observance is due to the indefatigable efforts of Canada's Honorary Consul in Cebu, Robert Lee, and his wife, Pek An Lee. The main highlight was a reception attended by more than 300 at the ballroom of the Shangri-La's Mactan Island Resort.

The event also presented a photo exhibit by Cebuano lensman Ted Madamba. He and his wife, Dr. Odalie Aznar Madamba, had gone through Canada's vast territory shooting landscapes and wildlife. The works are so beautiful many have asked if they are for sale.

There was a brief commemorative program that opened with the national hymns of the Philippines and Canada, sung by the double Quartet from the Cebu Normal University. Its president, Dr. Esther Velasquez, collected due praise.

In his speech, Ambassador Sutherland said there will be many more Canadian projects in the Visayas. They are all designed to uplift the quality of life and alleviate poverty in the region. Cebu Governor Gwendolyn Garcia gave the response and thanked him profusely. Before that, she called the attention of some in the audience who were quite noisy.

Well, that often happens during similar occasions, though this is not an excuse for it. Things would have to be organized in a different manner for national day celebrations—maybe start the program at the first hour, and serve drinks and food after the toasts and speeches.

This happened to me once in Manila at a diplomatic reception: I called the attention of two gentlemen whose conversation was irritating the host ambassador no end in the midst of his toast. Somebody hissed in my ear that both gentlemen, elegantly dark-suited, were ambassadors from two world powers. They kept quiet and later thanked me for hushing them up. That's diplomacy.

At this party in Cebu, the food was fantastic, what with stations serving succulent Fanny Bay oysters (this thick, this huge) and Alberta Beef. Liveried waiters passed goblets of the finest Canadian wines. The chilled Joseph's Festival Blanc was terrific.

Food fest

Michel and Amparito Lhuillier were present, taking note of the Canadian specialties, as they have a new trading firm which distributes deli food items. After the reception they enticed friends to have dinner at the Shangri-La's Cowrie Cove where a two-week Canadian food fest was being launched that same night. More oysters and shrimps accompanied the ice-cold Dom Perignom. Oh, but they do produce a very special champagne in Canada, cases of which are regularly sent to Buckingham Palace.

Here in Cebu from the Canadian Embassy for the events were Gerard Belanger, counselor for the Canadian International Development Authority (Cida); counselor and trade commissioner Ellen Zeisler; political officer David da Silva, public affairs officer Carlo Figueroa; trade commissioner Lyn Rothery; senior program officer Narcie Umali; trade commissioner assistants Anna Apostol, Irma Angeles, and Cheryl de Leon; and Marlon Tejero, who is the administration system analyst.

Together with Ambassador and Ms Sutherland, they were billeted at the Cebu City Marriott Hotel where some of the Canada Days events were held. One of these affairs was the launch of the Unicef-Cida Country Program for Children. Another was the Study-in-Canada information seminar, reservations for which had Robert Lee's telephones ringing days in advance.

At the Cebu Grand Hotel, there was a conference on Protecting and Caring For Children organized by the Cebu office of the Department of Health's Women and Children Protection Center.

Good audience

A presentation on Canada's parliamentary system of government drew a good audience to the Cultural Center of the University of San Carlos. Culture and the arts were very much a part of the celebration. Teresa Randall gave a ballet master class to students of Balletcenter, who were gathered by Johanna Mangubat, the center's assistant director.

There was a film screening of the documentary, "Shake Hands With the Devil." It has nothing to do with the 1959 Hollywood classic starring James Cagney, about strife-torn Ireland in the 1920s. This one is about a Canadian soldier with a UN peacemaking mission in the African hotbed of Rwanda. He is left alone when his companions of other nationalities go off.

Robert Lee says he will schedule another showing of the film. He is also quite busy these days organizing the Canadian Alumni Association in Cebu. He is tapping young and not-so-young Cebu residents from other places who at some time of their lives had studied in Canadian schools. He has quite a list.

Preparations are also under way for the traditional observance of Christmas on Dec. 3 by Canadians and Friends of Canada in Cebu. It will be Gold House, with a Chinese theme. Ambassador Sutherland is expected to attend. In past years, this event has drawn guests from all over the Visayas and Mindanao.

AMPARITO Lhuillier, Dr. Odalie Aznar Madamba, photographer Ted Madamba and Michel Lhuillier

DESIGN friends Cris Mananquil, Dan Lichauco and Joby Belmonte

NEW parents Mylene Dizon and Paolo Paraiso

BBC correspondent Sarah Toms and Karla Delgado

FOOD gurus George Yang and founder of Fish & Co. Ricky Chew

Fish & Co.
seafood in a pan

**FISH & Co. opening: Tony Rufino, Vince Carlos, Singapore Ambassador Lim Kheng Hua, me, Ricky Ch
and William Stelton**

Feasting on fish, shedd

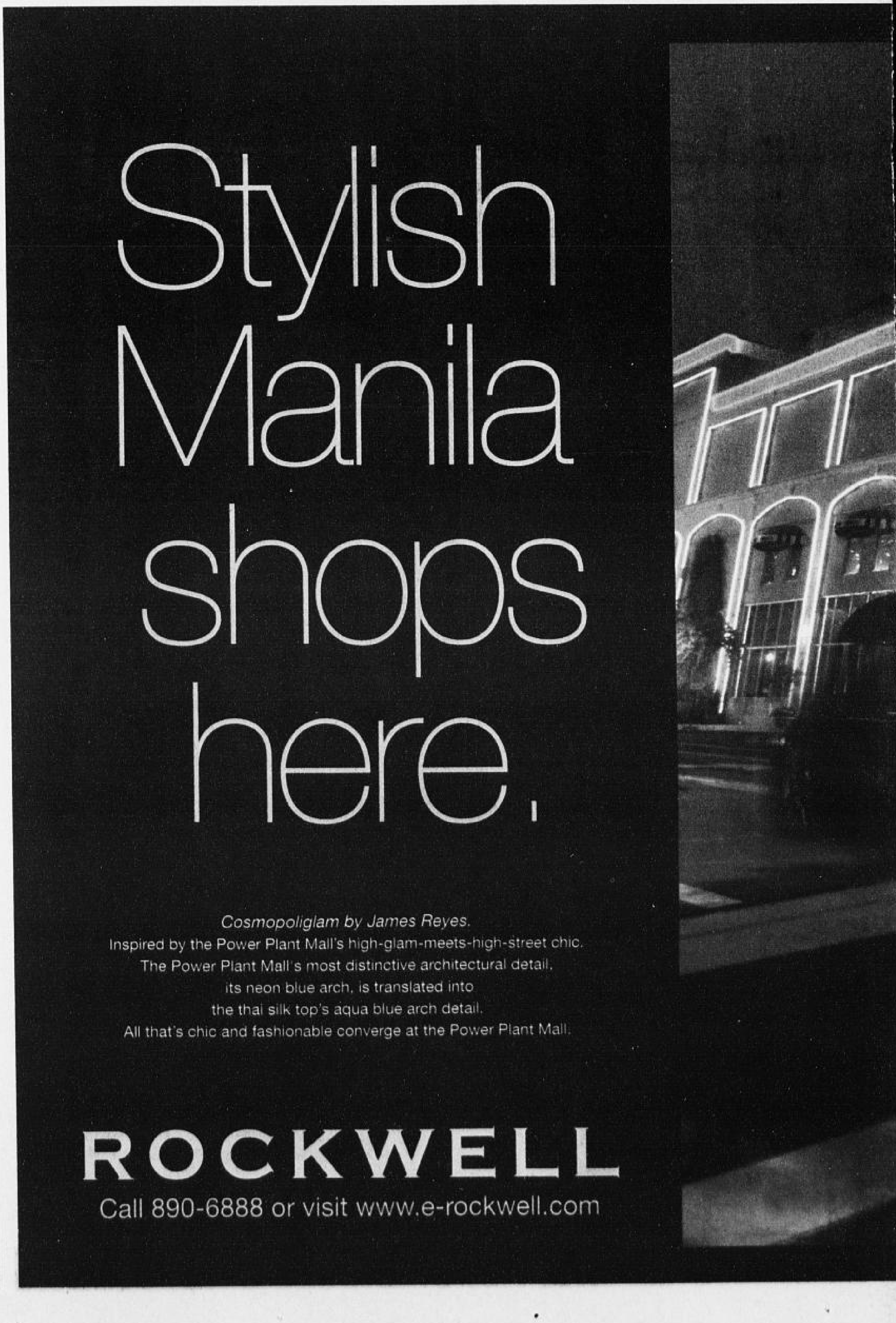
STILL IN THE MIDST OF MY battle of the bulge and desperately trying to wean myself off meat and fowl, I was glad that a new Greenbelt 3-based restaurant called Fish & Co. opened a couple of days ago. This hip, rugged, fish-warehouse-style restaurant is part of a chain from Singapore that is known for its quality "seafood served in the pan."

If one thinks about it, we Pinoys have the luxury of abundant seafood options, unlike landlocked countries like Nepal or Switzerland. So enjoying dishes like fried calamari and baked salmon should no longer be a rare treat, thanks to the likes of Fish & Co. The company has big plans, with another outlet opening by the last week of October at the Shangri-La Mall.

The Bistro Group of Restaurants, operators of Italianni's, Outback and T.G.I. Friday's, has added Fish & Co. to its list of franchises. Diners can expect the same level of great food quality and exceptional service that can be found at the Bistro Group's other outlets. At the opening, the overenthusiastic servers were attending to me constantly. It must have been my outfit.

At the ribbon-cutting ceremony, where I was one of the guests of honor, I wore a mermaid-inspired gown designed by one of the graduates of LaSalle College International. For her final project last year, **Trina Tuazon** created for me a multicolored, sequined gown with scale-shaped, tulle cutouts at the bottom. Unfortunately, I received the gown at the early stage of my pregnancy, so I've only had the chance to wear it now. As I am not yet fully back to my pre-pregnancy

> Visine and Eye Bank must have added me to their list of endorsers to add that outrageous element to their ad campaign


Stylish Manila shops here.

Cosmopoliglam by James Reyes.
Inspired by the Power Plant Mall's high-glam-meets-high-street chic.
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its neon blue arch, is translated into
the thai silk top's aqua blue arch detail.
All that's chic and fashionable converge at the Power Plant Mall.

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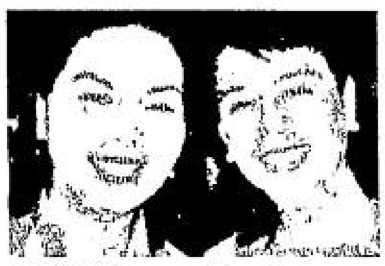
ew.

FIRST Daughter Luli Arroyo and Teenee Chan

BISTRO Group of Restaurants president William Stelton, Phoem Barranda, Luke Jickain, Mikee Carreon and Joji Dingcong

HSBC PR Laine Santana in between Annie Ringor and Leah Caringal



ELEGANT guests Tina Carlos and Pria Gonzales

ARTSY couple Norman and Tootie Crisologo

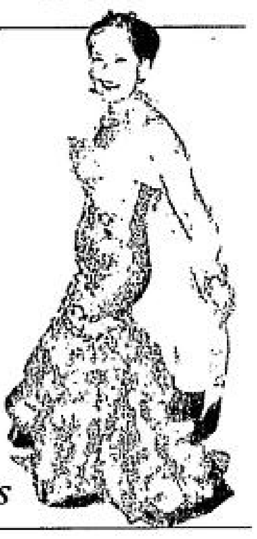
DYNAMIC Laurels. Rajo Laurel with his grandma Betty Laurel and aunt Ditas Marquez

Tears of Hope

"**TEARS** of Hope, Tears of Health" campaign supporters

ling happy tears

TESSA!



Tessa Prieto-Valdes

weight, the gown even had to be let out through the wondrous hands of **Rajo Laurel**'s tailors.

Skilled entrepreneurs

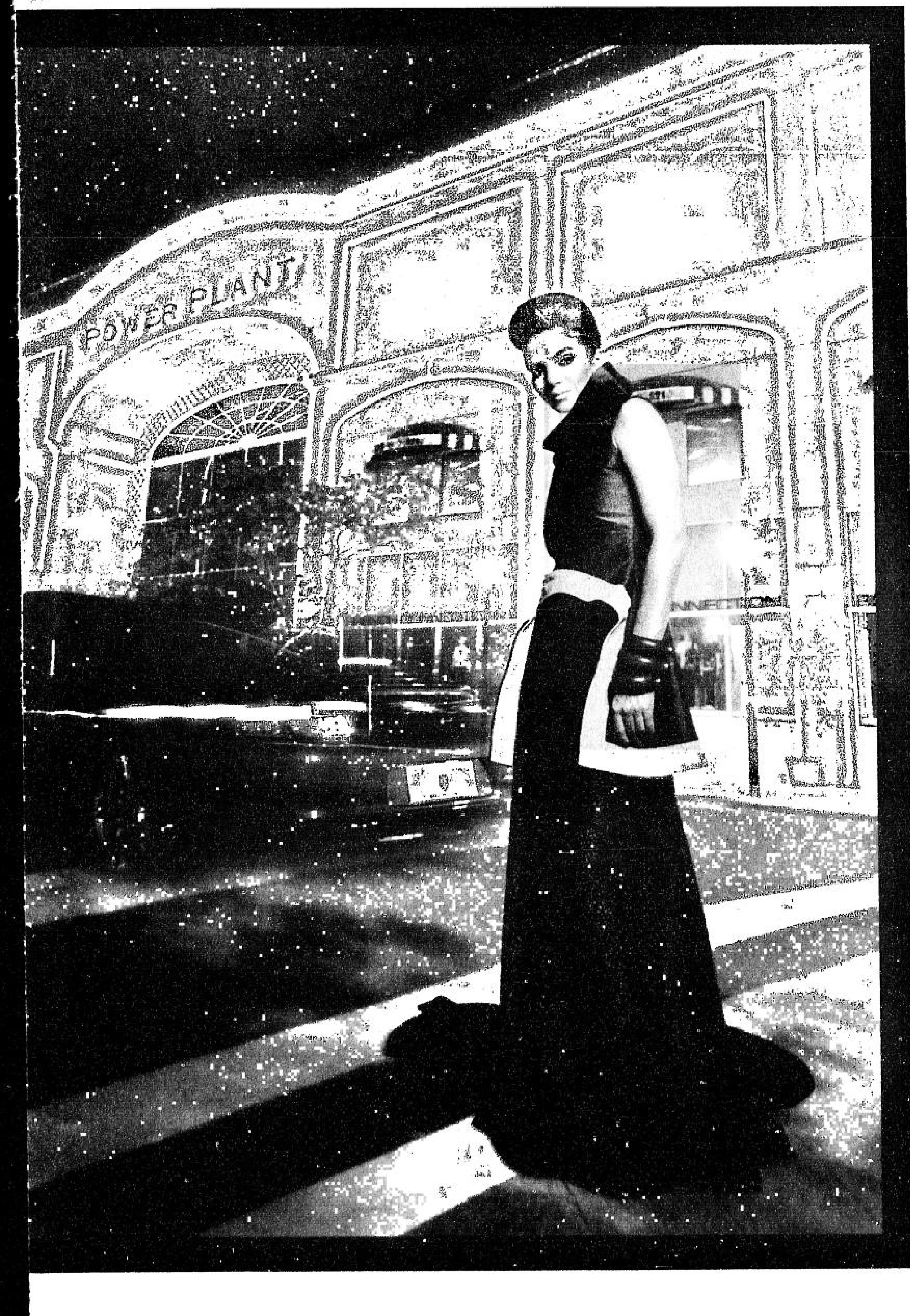
Since the college opened just five years ago, LaSalle graduates have established themselves in the fashion industry and have become skilled entrepreneurs. Not to be confused with De La Salle University, LaSalle College International (for inquiries, call 8401476) in Legaspi Village, Makati City, offers both two-year courses as well as short weekend programs like design marketing and merchandising. It's great that we have a school that seeks to professionalize fashion design education and not just churn out graduates of a dressmaking course. This year's newly minted designers even held a graduation fashion show called "Signature Style" at the Rockwell Tent.

New graduate **Choc Religioso** has already started her line in her shop at Nullah Building in Jupiter Street. Her simple yet elegant creations are gorgeous. I first saw her outfits at the opening of Studio 546, her sister's hair salon right across Urban Spa in Shangri-La Mall. This parlor has an excellent nail spa treatment and has makeup maverick **Eric Maningat** as its resident artist.

New facet

After the Fish & Co. opening, I did a quick costume change (of course, with a session with my Medela double-breast pump in between) and headed back to Greenbelt 3 for the Rajo Home launch at Kish. In yet another facet to his already successful career, Rajo's new venture interprets fashion into home essentials like lamps, stools and pillows. I am proud to say that the Tessa pillows—highly graphic, patterned throw pillows—were the most popular item that evening.

Rajo Home is part of a series of exhibitions, called Artist-In-Residence, sponsored by HSBC that features several artists of various persuasions creating functional and decorative home pieces for Kish. A very talented designer himself, owner **Ito Kish** is continually conceptualizing interesting design elements that make shopping in his store such a delight. He has the most extensive line of foreign-designed, high-end furniture alongside all his global finds—perfect to please the person who has everything. With Christmas just around the corner, one should definitely check out Kish.



EYE Bank chair Dr. Minguita Padilla, Pinky Marquez and Sarah Geronimo

If I still don't lose my remaining 10 or so pounds by the end of the year, I will just have to rely on the expert hands of **Danny Katalbas** and **Abbygale de Leon** of Emphasis Salon and top photographer **Jun de Leon** for our family's Christmas photo. At the height of my pregnancy, I never looked so dramatically stunning as when this team worked on my face for the "Tears of Hope, Tears of Health" campaign.

LANCOME makeup artist Abbygale de Leon

Brilliant campaign

Now in its 10th year of service, the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines partnered with Visine Refresh for a brilliant campaign using personalities shedding "happy tears," in individual ads designed to increase awareness about corneal blindness, a preventable and remediable disease afflicting Filipinos. Everyone involved graciously agreed to donate their services for free, and some, more importantly, have also agreed to become eye donors.

To officially launch the campaign, a fundraising dinner was held at the Nicotina Garden Pavilion along Roxas Boulevard. Aside from performances by singer-endorsers like **Sarah Geronimo** and **Pinky Marquez**, there was a celebrity auction featuring donated items that represented joyous occasions or memories in the donors' lives.

The items from this auction will make the rounds of the various malls together with the "Tears" photo exhibit to raise more awareness and funding for the Eye Bank.

It's amazing how influential show-biz stars, beauty queens, music artists and little ol' me could be. I was just thrilled to be part of the whole campaign and get a free sitting with exceptional lensman Jun. I had so much fun watching him transform my plumed nose and double-chinned face into a radiant, belle époque beauty.

NEW designer Choc Religioso with her creation

Of course, my version of tears had to be dramatized with Swarovski crystals and glitter. Digital photography even found a way to color my tears purple. Eye Bank chair Dr. **Minguita Padilla** must have added me to the list of endorsers to add that outrageous element to the campaign, and I am so glad she did.

I have such a passion for life that I believe so much in this campaign. Sharing hope through the gift of sight is a magnificent and God-like thing to do. And that hope surely brings true tears of joy to all who are touched by it.

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph.

GENEROUS supporters Alissa and Liezl Martinez, Dr. Minguita Padilla, Albert and Alfonso Martinez

Manila, Manila—who says you're nada?

From page D1

two weeks and wasn't expecting to have so much fun. But he did!

Moss particularly loved the '60s-'70s style architecture (think Locsin's heavy concrete look) especially along Buendia. He enjoyed his stay so much that he said he might come back next year and start an adventure travel company, something which his wife does back in the UK.

What is exciting about this piece is that, compared to the last big feature about Manila back in 1998 (also in Wallpaper magazine), the article is positive and showcases the best in the Philippines. Through a foreigner's eyes, especially one that works for such a prestigious magazine, plus the fact that Moss is a seasoned traveler, Manila comes out refreshing and even mysterious, a place you would like to re-discover.

Despite some mistakes (Moss calls a church the Church of the Holy Sacrifice instead of the Iglesia ni Cristo, and makes some spelling mistakes), the article is an amazing piece we can all be proud of. And if you are wondering why I spelled Manila as "Manilla," you just have to see the cover.

Fashion victim—"Cocaine Kate." She has graced numerous magazine covers all over the world and seemed to be the most bankable and resilient of all of the '90s supermodels. But all that came to a crashing halt when **Kate Moss** landed on another cover she would not have wanted to be on, the front page of the UK's Daily Mirror. In it she was photographed snorting cocaine "during a debauched drugs-and-drink session with junkie lover **Pete Doherty**."

The article went on: "It is clear from the extraordinary images, captured during a Mirror undercover investigation, that the 31-year-old catwalk queen is a practiced user."

Because of this scandal, Moss has reportedly lost millions in ad endorsements from beauty products and luxury brands like Burberry's. To make matters worse, British television's Sky One will be showing the footage on TV.

A recent development has Moss flying to Meadows Clinic in the US for medical treatment and therapy (cost: US$4,000). The Daily Mirror photograph was apparently a sting operation to catch the notorious model in the act.

TNT tidbits. Prognosis: Men's Vogue. I got my copy of Men's Vogue and here's my personal take on it. It is more Esquire than Details, more masculine rather than gay-friendly, which I believe works. You can tell by the features and the advertising—bespoke suits and shoes and all. And it reeks of old wealth.

Must-have CD—"Chillout Project: Sisters of the Sun" by Anton Ramos. It's been quite a while since I got excited over any CD—or singer, for that matter. I've been busy downloading from the Net classic songs and singers that have gone off quietly. Remember **Randy Crawford, Boz Scaags** and **Gino Vanneli**? Love their songs.

But on a recent trip to Music One I came upon the newest CD compilation of **Anton Ramos**, and enjoyed it immensely. In the tradition of classic lounge music, this one is a true winner!

What's hot in fashion. Now that summer's officially over and the fall/winter 2005 collections have arrived, here are summer fashion staples we don't want to see. Our advice—keep them for next year, as they may come back. But don't wear them anymore!

Our out list: ballet slippers and wedges, metallic bags and makeup, wooden accessories, pheasant skirts, oversized beads. For fashion, the colors green and aqua.

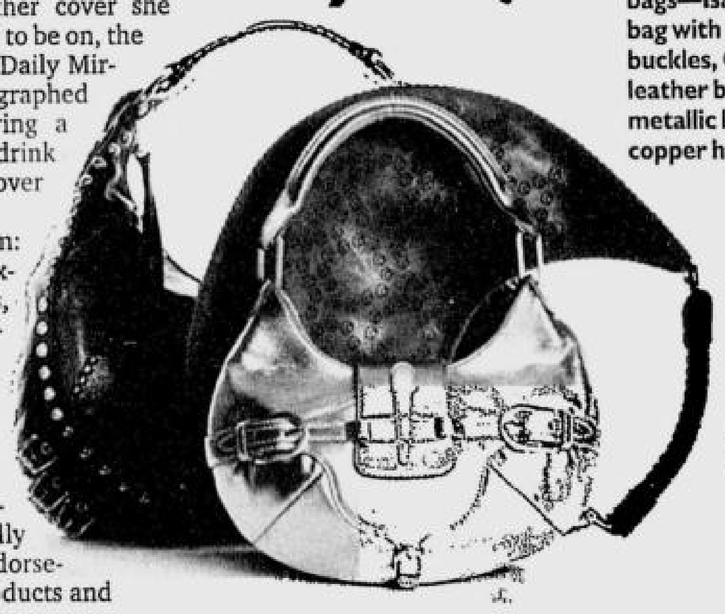
Part one of TNT's in list (check out photos): Circular bags enhanced with interesting finishes, playful hair accessories, bags in unique leather such as ostrich, goat skin, lizard, crocodile and python. And the colors black and plum.

The last word: To those who attended the Annual Philippine Tatler Ball last night, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your continued support of the magazine. Till the next one, thank you for celebrating our four years at the top!

For comments please e-mail antonsd@philtatler.com

DAILY Mirror
EXCLUSIVE
COCAINE KATE
Kate Moss snorts line after line

CAUGHT IN THE ACT. Supermodel Kate Moss on the cover of UK's Daily Mirror, snorting cocaine



WHAT'S HOT IN FASHION: Fancy hair accessories, LV plastic combs and Jean Paul Gaultier butterfly barrette (upper left). Circular bags—Isabelel Fiore leather bag with brass studs and buckles, Gariggue & Jarrosay leather bag, and Jimmy Choo metallic leather bag with copper hardware (left)

EXOTIC hide. LV's ostrich and python leather bag

Catch the Negros trade fair today

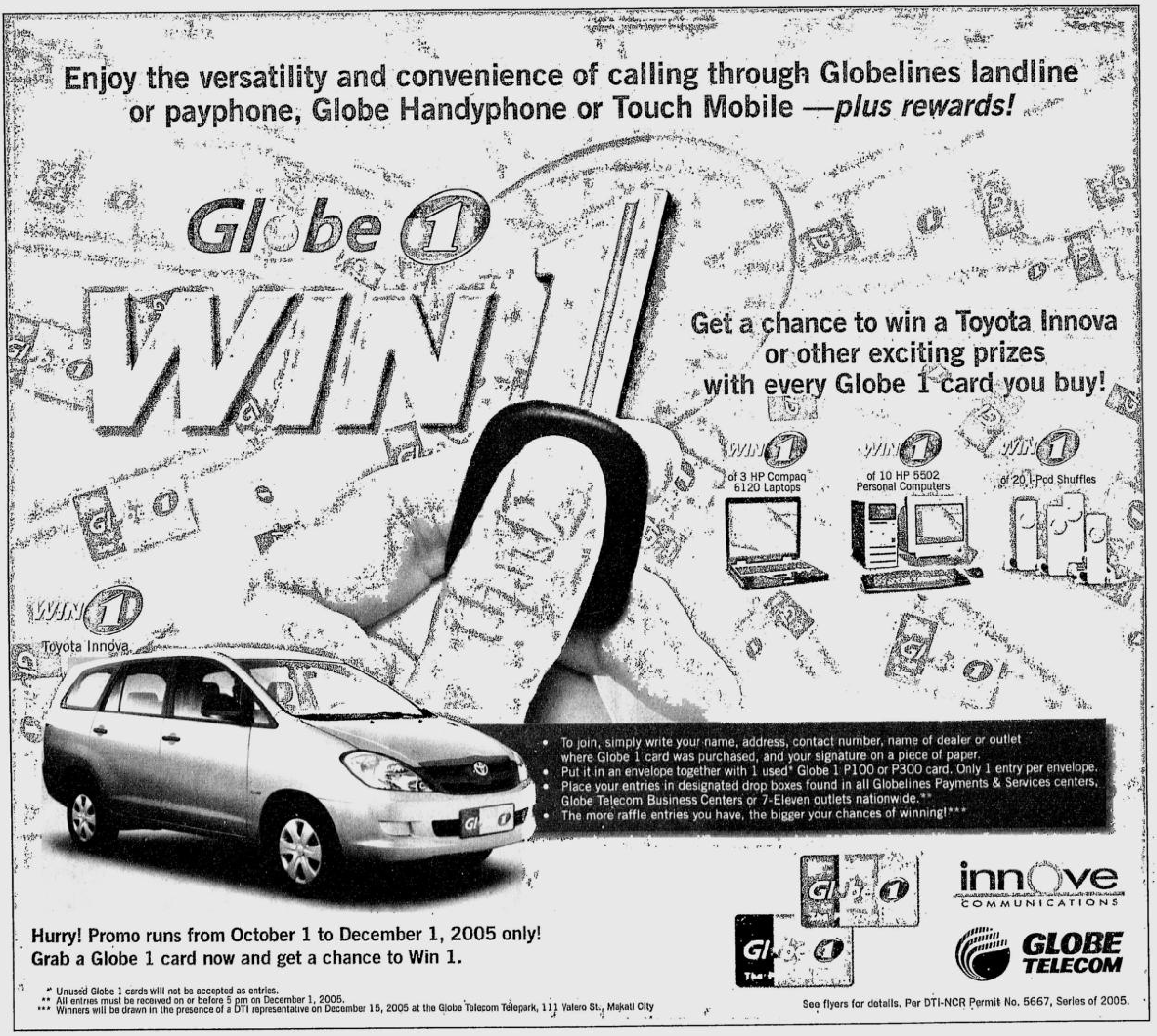
THE 20TH NEGROS TRADE FAIR IN Manila, organized by the Association of Negros Producers and dubbed "Negros!Negros! At Gateway!" the fair is ongoing until today at the Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City. The trade fair, Sugar City and Lifestyle Negros exhibitions are at various parts of the Gateway Mall while the festivals are held around Araneta Center.

Congressman Carlos Cojuangco is co-presenting the event together with Globe Telecoms, Inc. Three LGUs—the province, headed by Gov. Joseph Maranon, Bacolod city headed by Mayor Evelio Leonardia and La Carlota city led by Mayor Jeffrey Ferrer have also joined hands to help the ANP organize.

Close to 60 entrepreneurs from the province have brought to the trade fair their latest products most of which were inspired by the *patadyong*, the Ilonggo handweave of colorful plaid. Under the product design program of the ANP, the producers developed new products or reinvented old ones, using the *patadyong* as base.

The Sugar City includes exhibits on sugar, including a mini-muscovado mill that shows how sugar is made. Lifestyle Negros exhibit, on the other hand, showcases the ANP products in one setting—to highlight how they can be used in home spaces.

Other sponsors of the event are PLDT, Alfonso Tan and José Mari Chan.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PERTIERRA-RAMOS

José Joaquin Pertierra, son of **Joaquin B. Pertierra** and **Ma. Cristina Montenegro**, will marry **Maybelle Ramos**, daughter of **Ferdinand C. Ramos** and **Evangeline Aguilar**, on Oct. 8, at St. James the Great Parish Church in Ayala, Alabang. Reception will follow at the Bellevue Hotel Manila in Northgate Cyberzone, Alabang.

The bride will wear a one-piece off-shoulder gown in ivory-white gazar silk designed by **Joel Escober**.

NEPOMUCENO-PADERNOS

Pia Leah "Faye" R. Padernos, only daughter of **Dionisio and Librada Padernos** of Buting, Pasig, will marry **Lubin Leo V. Nepomuceno**, son of **Lubin and Lourdes Nepomuceno** of Riverside Village, Pasig, at 3 p.m., Oct. 7, at the Edsa Shrine. Reception will follow at the Valle Verde II clubhouse. The bride's gown was made by **Len Nepomuceno-Guiao**.

CODLING-ORNOPIA

Steve Codling, son of **Geoffrey** and **Oamela Codling**, will wed **Doris Ornopia**, daughter of **Delfin** and **Helen Ornopia**, at 3 p.m, Oct. 8, at Alliance of Two Hearts Parish Church in Banawa, Cebu City. Reception will be at the Waterfront Cebu City Hotel and Casino. The bride's gown was designed by **Felix Yu**.

CAHAMBING-TOLENTINO

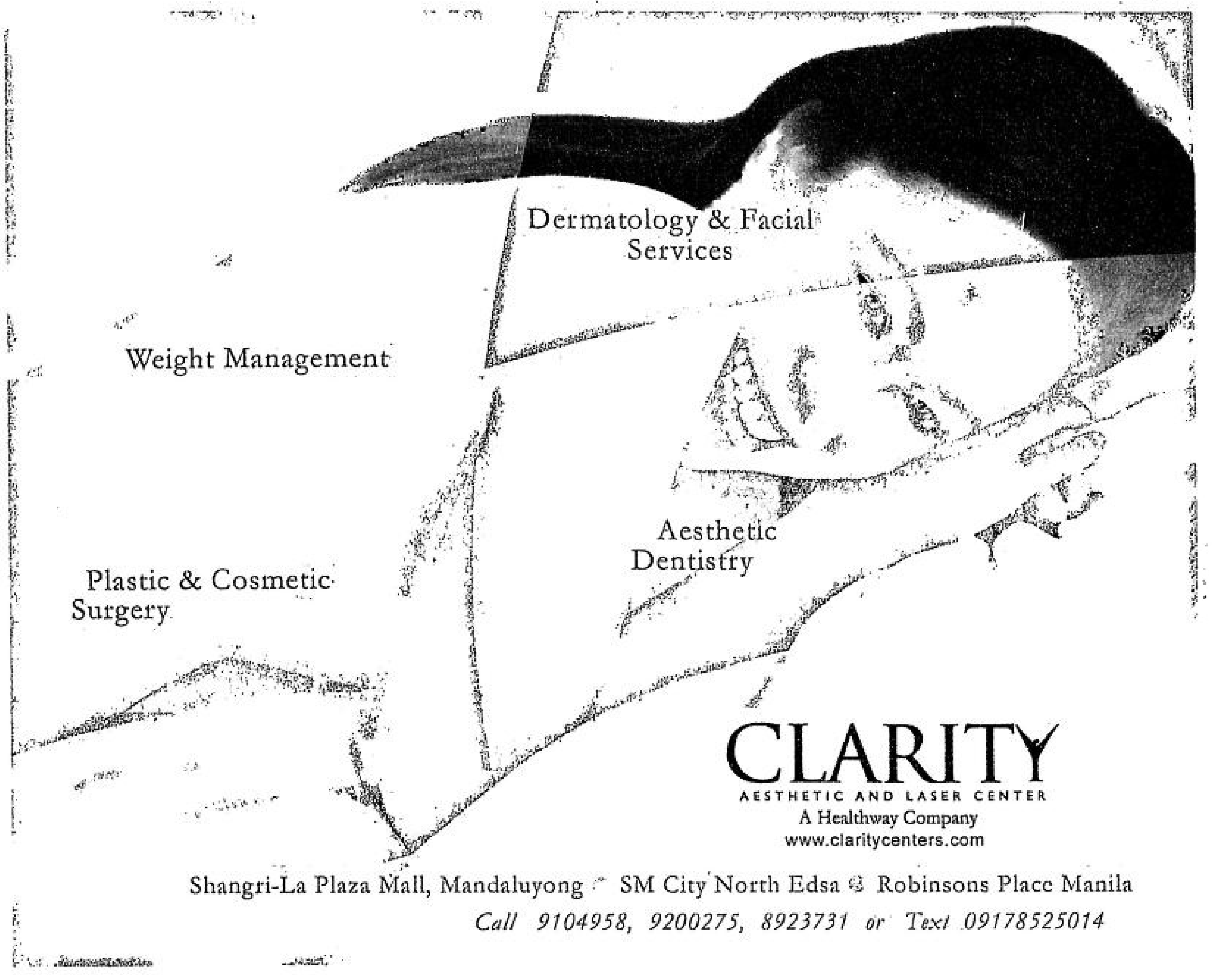
Chad Ian G. Cahambing, son of **Celso** and **Cinderella Cahambing**, will wed **Janice Beverly G. Tolentino**, daughter of **George** and **Asuncion Tolentino**, on Oct. 22 at Alliance of Two Hearts Parish, Banawa, Cebu City. Reception will follow at Waterfront Lahug, Cebu City.

SURBANO DEBUT

Ethel Marian Q. Surbano will celebrate her debut on Oct. 9 at the Grand Ballroom of The Palms Country Club, Muntinlupa City. She is a freshman Industrial Engineering student at De La Salle University. Her off-shoulder gown, created by **Bobby Novenario**, is in aqua-blue metallic organza accented with Swarovski crystals, beads and sparkles.

Milestones

We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, and gown designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the INQUIRER, *P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the senders.*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THE COUPLE and their parents with godparents President Macapagal Arroyo and former President Fidel V. Ramos

WITH secondary sponsors

ABUEG-MADAMBA NUPTIALS

Fated to cross paths

MARIA CELINE R. MADAMBA and Adolfo Osmundo Ramon "Dindo" S. Abueg had lived in the same places but at different times.

Both high achievers even as students, they went on to enjoy exceptional careers. Though both held out for that one true love, it seemed unlikely their paths would cross.

Madamba studied at the International Schools of Hong Kong, Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur, graduating class salutatorian. She graduated with honors from Wellesley College in Massachusetts, United States.

Upon returning to the Philippines, she worked in government, headed civic organizations, then became assistant vice president for strategic marketing communication for the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Abueg was a scholar at the Philippine Science High School and the University of the Philippines School of Engineering where he was student council president. After working in Hong Kong, he earned his Masters at Yale University in the US. He worked in Boston, Massachusetts for three years before moving to Singapore to become an investment banker. He started with BNP Paribas and is now connected with Deutsche Bank.

No ordinary meeting

The two finally met on Dec. 26, 2003, after a mutual friend failed to get them together for two years. As Madamba and Abueg dined in Greenbelt, Makati, they realized it was no ordinary meeting. Dinner was quickly followed by eight more dates before Abueg finished his Manila holiday.

Daily long-distance phone calls, e-mails and monthly visits to Manila kept the romance going.

Abueg would send roses and musical cards on the 26th of every month, the day they first met. He wrote her poems and sketched the two of them together.

When she flew to France for business, he surprised her with a dozen roses waiting in her hotel room. And he came to Manila to be with her on Valentine's Day.

> When they met for the first time, they realized it was no ordinary event

Sign from God

Madamba told Abueg she would only commit to him if she was 130 percent sure he was the one. While she could sense he was very special, it was after receiving a special sign from God on Holy Thursday that Madamba realized he really was the one for her.

The 26th of every month became even more special for both of them, marked by more surprises and special tokens for each other. Madamba made sure Abueg's birthday would be memorable with a special dinner under the stars at Antonio's and an oil painting of them she did herself.

Exactly 10 months after they met, on Oct. 26, 2004, Madamba and Abueg heard Mass at Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, giving thanks for meeting each other. In the candle room, he asked her to marry him.

She said yes.

She was now 130 percent sure he was the one. The two lit a candle in prayer. Since then, they would offer a prayer and a decade of rosary every night in thanksgiving.

Wedding day

Madamba and Abueg were married at Santuario de San Antonio with Msgr. Gerardo O. Santos officiating.

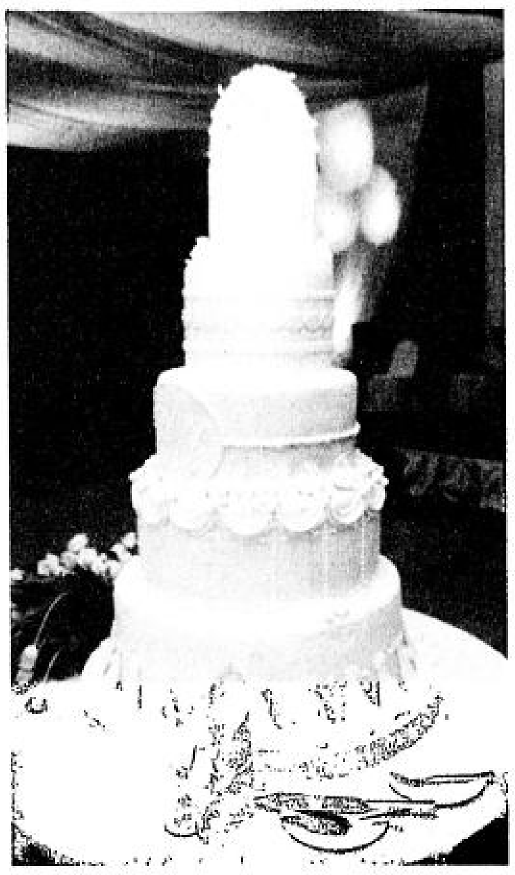
Principal sponsors were President Macapagal-Arroyo, former President Fidel V. Ramos, former Sen. Leticia Ramos Shahani, Sen. Francis Pangilinan, Ambassador Cesar Bautista, Rep. Jaime Lopez, Rep. Jerome Paras, INQUIRER president Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez, Antonio Baltazar, José Mari Chan, Erlinda Tiangco, Milagros Delgado-Sison, Cecilia Abrenica and Connie Yuchengco-Gonzalez.

Florentino Abueg was best man, while Bea Lucero-Lhuillier was matron of honor. Other members of the entourage were Maria Filomena Michaela Certeza, maid of honor; Gilbert Sta. Maria, Amador Madamba and Arnold Leoncio, groomsmen; Anita Regalado and Reina Cruz, bridesmaids.

Secondary sponsors were Alexander Abrenica and Patricia Concepcion Abueg, candle; Dominic Dizon and Grace Patricia Limon, veil; Eduardo Pedrosa and Yolanda Lea Sarte, cord; Alexander Levy Abrenica, ring bearer; Luis Lorenzo de los Reyes, coin bearer; Fernando Levy Sto. Domingo, Bible bearer; Lauren Jennifer Virginia Abueg, Anna Carissa de los Reyes and Maria Mikaela Madamba, flower girls.

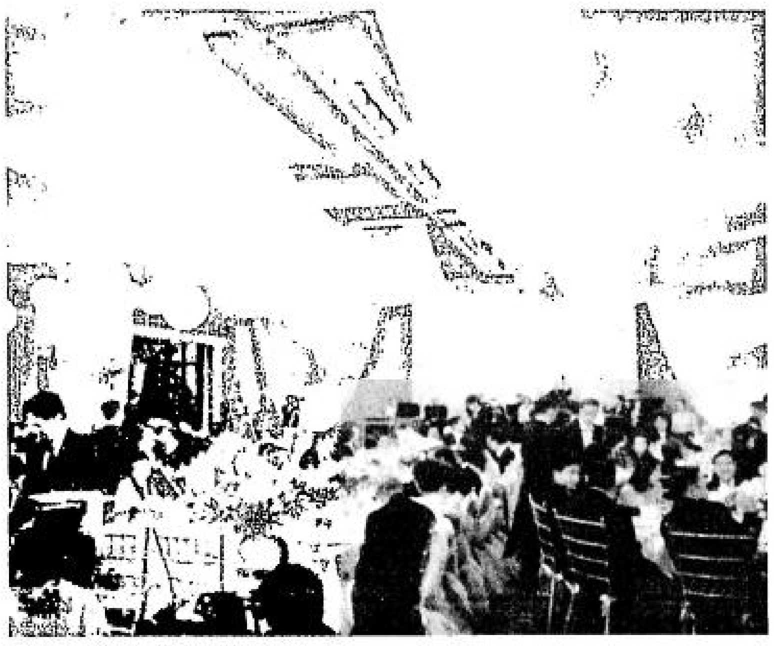
The newlyweds went to Rome, Florence and Venice in Italy for their honeymoon.

NEWLYWEDS Dindo and Celine Abueg (nee Madamba)



FIVE-LAYERED apple walnut fondant cake by Penk Ching with monogram of couple bound by 10 beads representing a Rosary decade (the couple prayed on phone every night and meditated over a decade of rosary every night during their long-distance engagement)

BENGUET Corp. president Philip Romualdez, INQUIRER president Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez and INQUIRER chair Marixi Prieto



SPECIAL lighting, round lanterns, draping on the ceiling and walls, tiffany chairs create a romantic and soft ambience.

WITH the entourage

WITH Dindo's friends from Singapore

WITH Celine's friends from Make A Wish Foundation

TESSA Prieto-Valdes and Dennis Valdes

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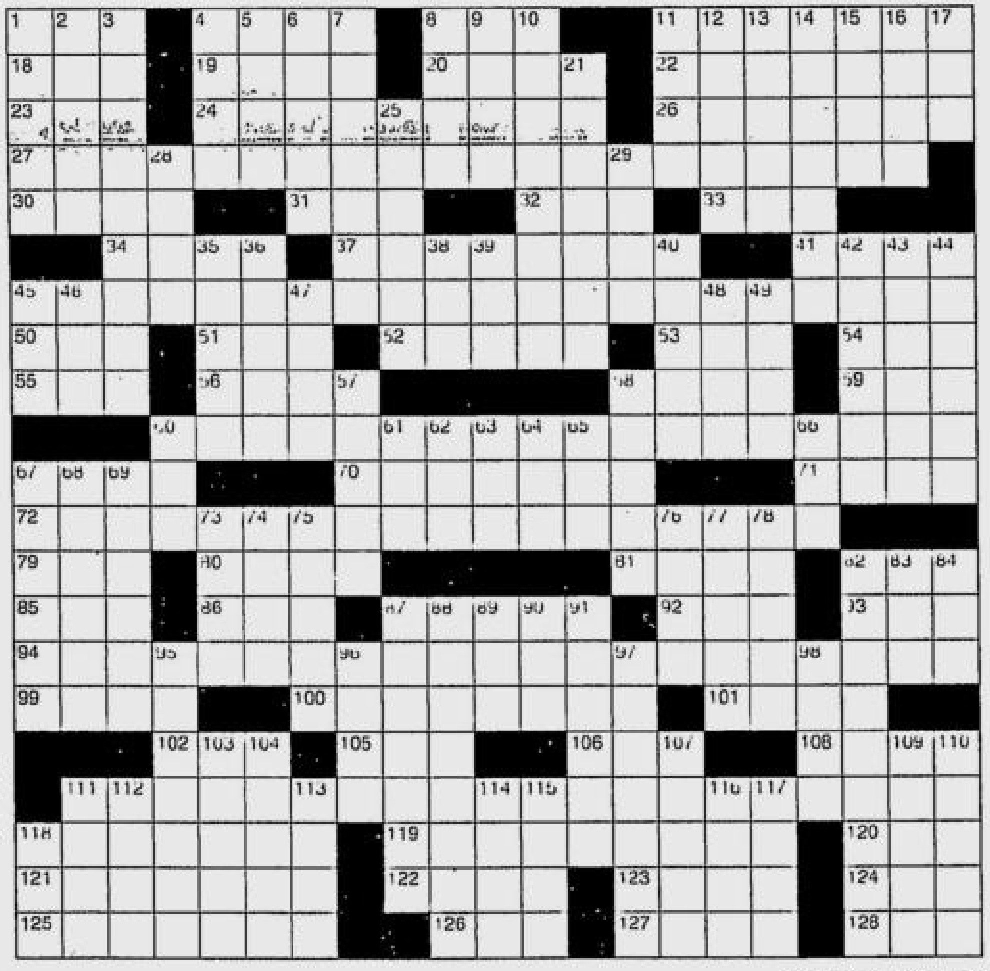
ACROSS
1 Beaver's creation
4 Oohs and —
8 Beard on grain
11 Autos in chase scenes
18 Certain Ivy Leaguer
19 Animal's stomach
20 Doe, e.g.
22 Very handsome young men
23 Hawaii's Mauna —
24 Alexandria's area
26 "I did no such thing!"
27 Start of a riddle
30 Tarry
31 24-hr. cash source
32 Beanie, e.g.
33 C followers
34 Broccoli —
37 Gives off
41 Raw metals
45 Riddle, part 2
50 Self-importance
51 Nobel-winning UN agcy.
52 Roll back to zero
53 — double take
54 Scot's refusal
55 Dawn droplets
56 Punch-in-the-stomach sounds
58 Implement
59 Dog's warning
60 Riddle, part 3
67 Actress Pinkett
70 More suspicious
71 — facto
72 Riddle, part 4
79 Pt. of DOS or GPS
80 Et — (and others)
81 Exude slowly
82 Wilt
85 Comedian Margaret
86 Gas pump abbr.
87 Charley horse, e.g.
92 Hotfoot it
93 Weep
94 End of the riddle
99 Five-star
100 Marlo Thomas sitcom
101 In — (actually existing)
102 'Zine
105 Santa — Mountains
106 "The Spanish Tragedy" dramatist Thomas
108 Its cap. is Pierre
111 Riddle's answer
118 Future flower on a thorny stem
119 You might win one just by attending an event
120 Caustic compound
121 Retired professors
122 Humorist Bombeck
123 Economist Greenspan
124 Shocking fish
125 Most succinct
126 Note before la
127 Fire: Prefix
128 Rte. parts

DOWN
1 Salami sellers
2 Airborne
3 "Hannah and Her Sisters" star
4 Face defacer
5 Very dry
6 "Given — chance ..."
7 Suffer in the heat
8 Port in Yemen
9 Whipping reminder
10 Popular Web browser
11 Adam's firstborn
12 Elected (to)
13 Sheriff's helpers
14 Applaud
15 Milan's Teatro — Scala
16 Churn up
17 Nautical hdg.
21 Drumbeat sound
25 Stage lighting switch
28 Tatum's dad
29 Oil org.
35 Vowel sequence
36 Random way to choose
38 Dumbfound
39 Greek letters
40 "Me too"
42 Processed with a cash register
43 Online competition for Hallmark
44 Sound system
45 Col. for one
46 Survey info
47 Tip, as a hat
48 12:00 p.m.
49 Soft rock
57 Conductor Georg
58 Human trunk
60 "Kapow!"
61 "Bad Behaviour" star Stephen
62 Mil. bigwig
63 Meal remnant
64 15%, often
65 Earl Grey, e.g.
66 Recline
67 Violinist Heifetz
68 Slangy transition word
69 Renounce possession of
73 — -mutuel
74 Couturier Cassini
75 Not wrong
76 Irked
77 Sky hue
78 Fellows
82 Tax forms
83 Magnate Onassis
84 YMCA area
87 Chemical in some poisons
88 Spinning things
89 Summer mo.
90 Med. scan
91 Enliven
95 Dues payers
96 Deice
97 Insect-snaring plant
98 Greek peak
103 Chicago Seven activist Hoffman
104 Fills to excess
107 Every 24 hours
109 Up until now
110 Ship parts
111 Seven Hills city
112 Exploiter
113 Blue-pencil
114 — sapiens
115 Uttered
116 Ivan the Terrible, e.g.
117 Carson's replacement
118 Eligible for Soc. Sec.



answer on page F4

The Beacon School
A PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
VERITAS ET LUMEN
Admissions open for 2006-2007

The Beacon School is an independent, non-profit, co-educational school modeled upon the best international educational practice. It is committed to providing a global education of the highest quality, rooted in an understanding of Filipino culture and traditions, to children of all nationalities. Currently in its fifth year of operation, the school has grown rapidly to reach three hundred students and forty-five faculty.

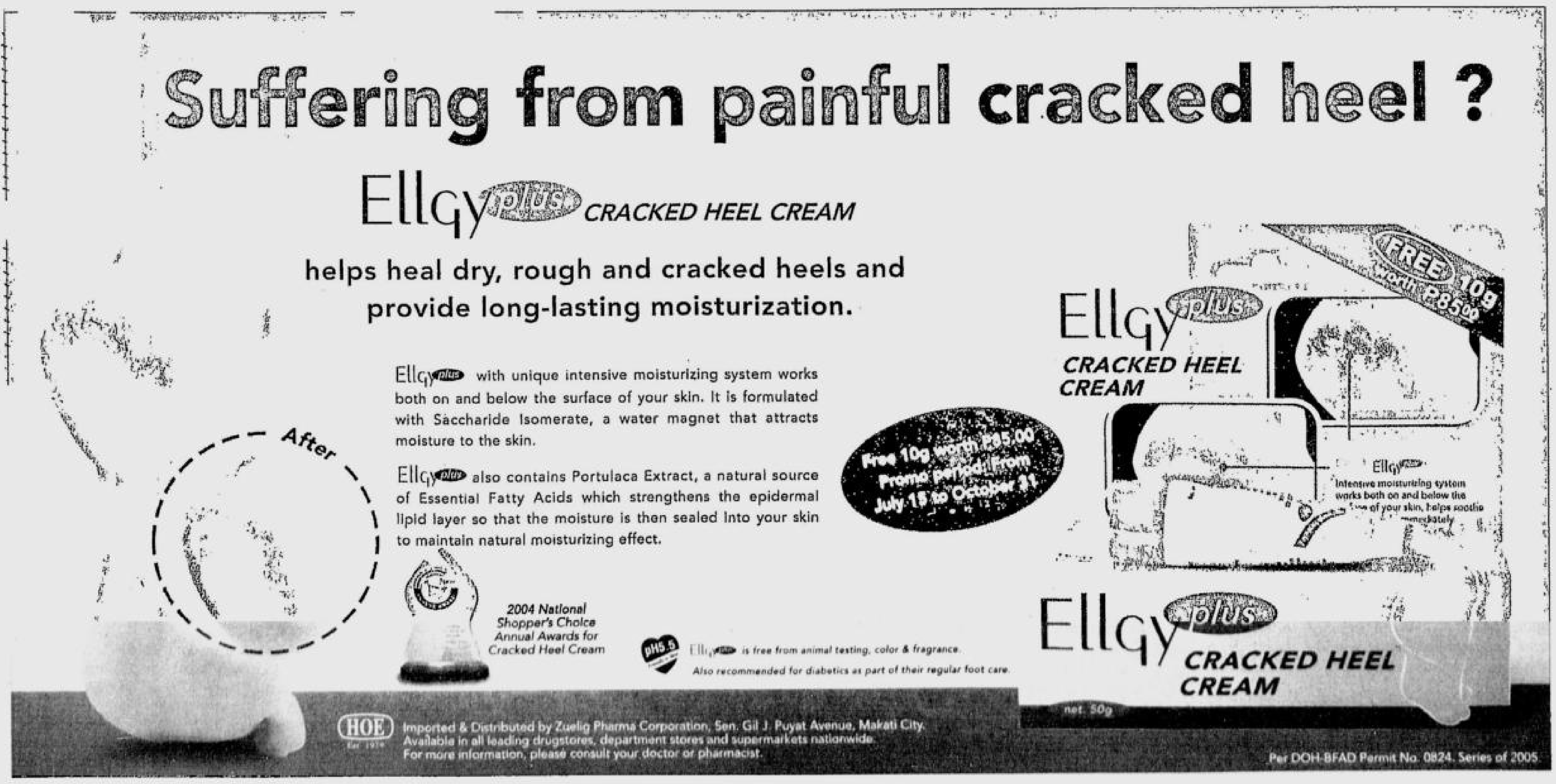
The school is located in fully air-conditioned premises in the tree-lined grounds of the Philippine Center for Population and Development in Chino Roces (Pasong Tamo) Extension, Taguig, Metro Manila.

Our rich and exciting academic programme is firmly based on the International Baccalaureate Primary Years and Middle Years Programmes. We are fully authorized to offer the IB Primary Years Programme. Currently, we are the only fully authorized school in the Philippines. We are a candidate school seeking authorization for the IB Middle Years Programme. Our academic programmes are recognized by the Department of Education.

Applications for enrolment for the 2006-2007 school year are now being accepted for all grade levels from Pre-School to Grade 8. While space may be available at most grade levels, this may be extremely limited at some levels due to current enrolment. Applications will be received until 15 January 2006, after which date applications will only be received for grade levels in which space is available.

Parents who are interested in seeking enrolment for their children are invited to visit and tour the school. Please contact the school at admissions@beaconschool.ph in order to arrange an appointment, and visit our website at www.beaconschool.ph.

School address The Beacon School, PCPD Building
2332 Chino Roces Avenue Extension
Taguig, Metro Manila.
Phone (632) 810-5046; (632) 840-5040
Fax (632) 810-5046; (632) 840-5040
E-mail admissions@beaconschool.ph
headmaster@beaconschool.ph
Website www.beaconschool.ph



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Ellgy plus also contains Portulaca Extract, a natural source of Essential Fatty Acids which strengthens the epidermal lipid layer so that the moisture is then sealed into your skin to maintain natural moisturizing effect.

2004 National Shopper's Choice Annual Awards for Cracked Heel Cream
Ellgy plus is free from animal testing, color & fragrance.
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For more information, please consult your doctor or pharmacist.
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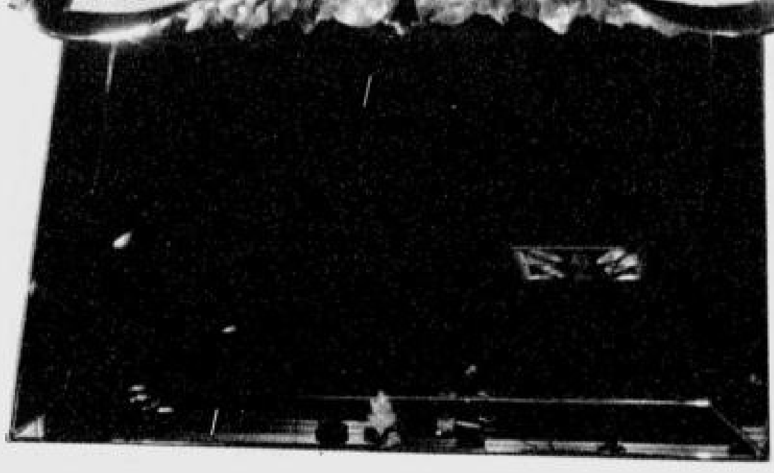
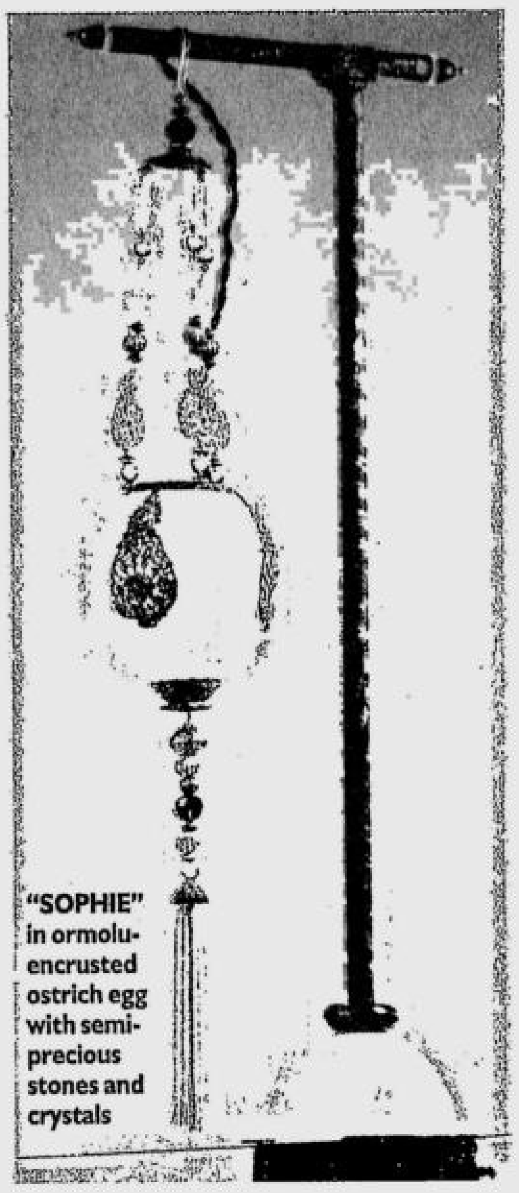
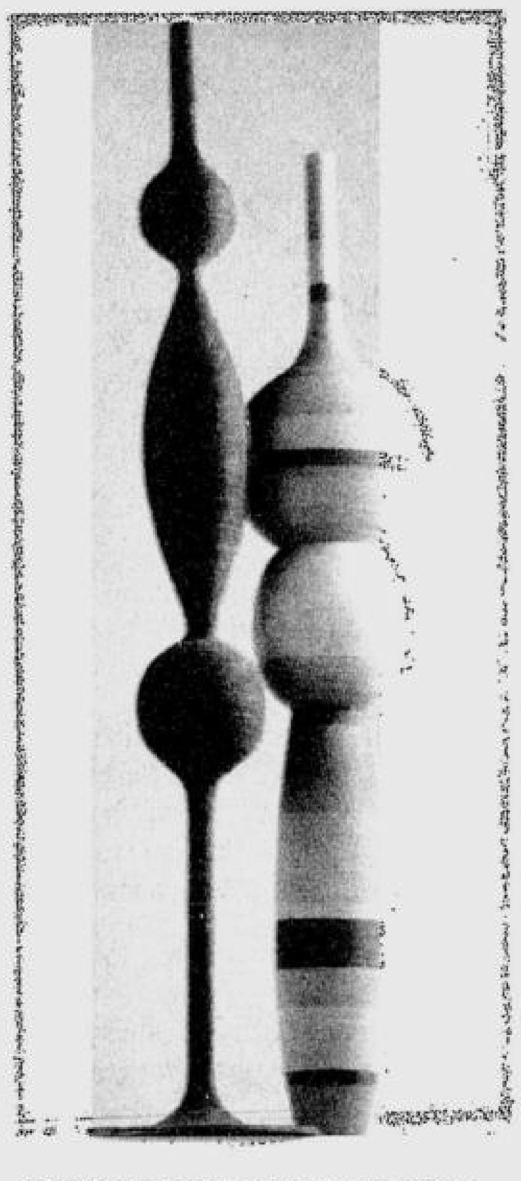
New haven for luxury design



KATHA Awardee Rene Alcala has a new spin on Baroque with his mother-of-pearl encrusted mirror.



"SOPHIE" in ormolu-encrusted ostrich egg with semi-precious stones and crystals



AFRICANESQUE modern vases by D'Oro Barandino of Cebu

AT FELICITY, CHITO VIJANDRE AND Ricky Toledo's new art and design venue, the mundane definitely has no place.

Just take a look at "Sophie," an ostrich egg pendant lamp encrusted with bronze ormolu, gracefully suspended on tourmaline and smoky quartz strands, which hang from a hand-painted silk-wrapped stand.

Or the pair's Romanov line of bonbon bowls, in tune with the fascination for Russia this coming season, which have enough jewels on them to ignite another revolution.

The designers of the Greenbelt 3 boutique Firma, together with some new artists, bring happy tidings with their latest creations, but this time with a twist: Wynn Wynn Ong, who has designed the most covetable jewelry and has a special line for Felicity inspired by ancient civilizations, will have bags in crocodile and choice houseware pieces which she has always dreamed of having but couldn't find in the market.

Bea Valdes, recently featured in Vogue for creating "this year's must-have evening bag," has her grandmother's Panlilio legacy behind her to create the most decadent jewelry, not to mention her interior design background to come up with haute accent pieces for the home.

Another designer featured in the international fashion scene is Joanna Lhuillier, whose latest line of painstakingly beaded bags will bring absolute delight. Gemma Suzara, who studied jewelry design in Florence and has a gorgeous collection called "Embellishments," is also a perfumer who will produce the most marvelous scents.

A strong fashion slant will be felt thanks to talented YDG designers like Yvonne Quisumbing-Romulo with her art-to-wear in piña and Louis Claparols with his fantasy accessories in fur, pearls and beads. Brimming with ideas from London art school, Lilianna Manahan will create some amazing one-of-a-kind beaded and embroidered separates.

A new designer, Raymond Abrenica, introduces Thornby, limited edition footwear which are updated interpretations of contemporary luxury with a hint of eccentricity. Gigi De Jonghe disappointed her fans by leaving for India two years ago, but came back recently after a successful exhibit of her bags in Delhi. She is presenting some of her most beautiful pieces to date in the store.

Ana Rocha-Castillo of Rocks will roll out a new exciting line of jewelry using specially-cut stones, as will Joseph Bernabe, who will launch a delightful innovation he is so confident will be a hit that he has decided to patent it.

Using her eye for styling and photography, Joanne Zapanta-Andrada does wonders with sterling silver, pearls and semi-precious stones for a jewelry line that will simultaneously sell in Hong Kong and Manila. Gemology Institute of America graduate Paul Syjuco "invites us to wear art" with his impeccably crafted high-quality gems in futuristic incarnations.

Monica Olbes, an art graduate who was working at Christie's New York, plays with textures by using unusual stones like zebra-cut blue topaz to create the most delicate, alluring pieces. Rica Tanega, inspired by colors, tries to create assymetrical balance using beautiful 24k gold leaf or sterling silver leaf Venetian glass.

Happy David continues to tickle our fancy with Lucy in the Sky, a fresh take on the elegant and glamorous '40s and '50s, using hand-wrought copper wire balls mixed with Swarovski crystals and semi-precious stones.

In the home front, Melograno Blu, whose lamps have graced the most beautiful spaces from Paris to the Cote d'Azure, will showcase its latest collection of Murano lamps and candlesticks inspired by the '20s. Some exciting finds from France like the sculptural blown glass vases of Tung Design will make a Felicity debut, as will the recent stars of the Citem Fame show, like mother-of-pearl-encrusted mirrors by Katha awardee Rene Alcala and modern Africanesque vases by D'Oro Barandino of Cebu.

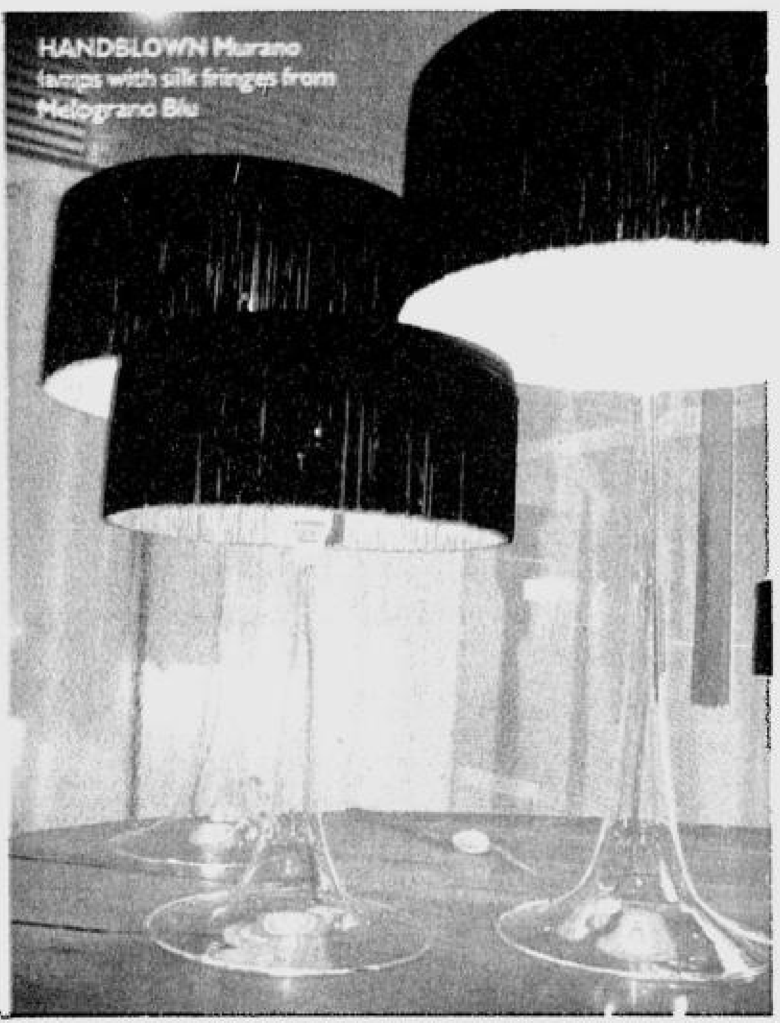
The Rue St. Honoré landmark, Satellite, will showcase "Dessus Dessous" and "Anassa," its new collection of stunning jewelry pieces. Jean-Daniel Brami, a hit at the recent jewelry shows in Paris, will have whimsical pieces with unexpected combinations like pearls with Wedgwood porcelain and tiny wicker baskets.

London's Erickson Beamon, jewelry designer for Galliano and Alexander McQueen, among others, will have very individual pieces like "African Valentino" and "Ali Baba."

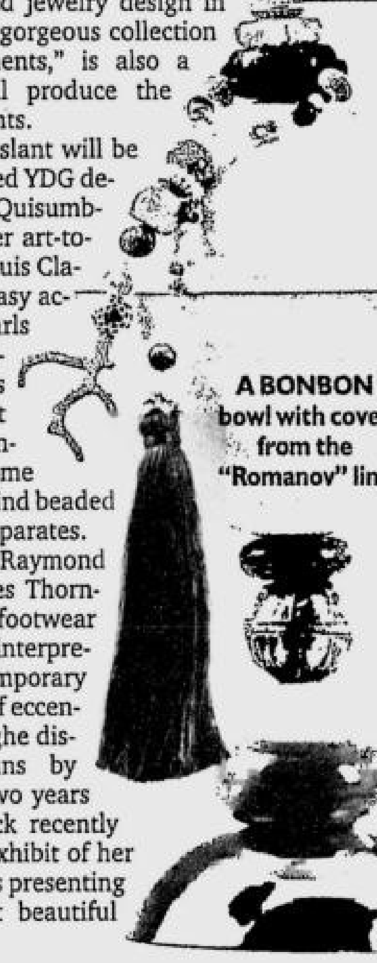
To complete the luxe experience at Felicity, Ricky and Chito have chosen a most exquisite line of scents for their clients: Carthusia—that legendary house from Capri—one of the smallest, most exclusive perfume laboratories in the world with a limited production of hand-made, extremely refined perfumes.

With such an exciting mix of wonderful things, a stylephile's search for that elusive, extraordinary piece could very well end at this new design haven.

Felicity is at Unit 336, 3/L Shangri-La Plaza, Edsa cor. Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong. Call 6344244 or e-mail felicity@vasia.com.



HANDBLOWN Murano lamps with silk fringes from Melograno Blu



A BONBON bowl with cover from the "Romanov" line

NAPKIN ring in coral, jade and pearls, another Felicity exclusive

Floral arrangements for All Souls' Day

CLASSICAL Rikka style (Ikenobo School)

IN PREPARATION FOR ALL Souls' Day, a seminar-workshop on flower arrangement for flower shop operators will be conducted by Ikebana professor Serapion S. Metilla Oct. 12-16 at Mett's Plant Arts, King Louis Garden Center, Manila Seedling Bank, cor. Edsa and Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.

Held daily 1-6 p.m., the seminar will cover:

Day 1—Various styles of Ikebana, importance of plants and flowers, preservation, techniques of arranging and identification of materials

Day 2—Western styles and sourcing of materials

Day 3—Western styles and flower-shop operation

Day 4—Free styles, buffet or party centerpieces, garland-making and weaving of birds and grasshoppers out of coconut leaves

Day 5—Corsage- and bridal bouquet-making, and other wedding arrangements

Registration should be made at least three days before the seminar. The fee covers all materials needed, including pruning scissors, flower vases, floral foams, flowers, foliage, floral wires, focal tapes and ribbons among others. All participants will be provided with snacks, hand-outs and certificates. Alumni can avail of free consultations and discounts.

Contact Metilla at 9394593 or 0917-8321352. Register at Flower Mart, Seedling Bank, 4352479.

Plant sale Oct. 7-8

THE MESINA GARDEN AND Landscape Plants Inc. will hold a sale of rare plants Oct. 7-8 at its main nursery in Barrio Lalakay near Calamba-Los Baños boundary, Laguna (after Jonels Spring Resort).

The collection includes pink palms, champagne palms, champindle palms (a cross between champagne and spindle), ivory and orange palms, various species of sansivieria, white agave, rare cycads, junipers, camphor tree, rare ferns, dieffenbachia, aglaonema, dracaenas, ti plants, scheiffleras and many more.

All plants are available in different sizes and will be sold at discounted prices.

Call 0917-8053215.

Medicine in your backyard

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

A COUNTRY'S VEGETATION SHOULD never be taken for granted, even if what grows looks like weeds.

There is a chance these plants can be a source of food and even affordable medicine. Drugs are getting so expensive people now say if your ailment doesn't kill you, the prices of medicine will.

In the Philippines, there is an oft-repeated phrase: "We are blessed with the bounties of nature." But to make the most of those bounties, we have to shed some of our conventional thinking.

The call today is for a change of lifestyle, which generally refers to the use of fossil fuel for our cars by going around more in bikes and other less oil-consuming vehicles, and even on foot. It should include a change in the way we regard consumer goods as well. And medicine, for all that is meant to be beneficial to our health is still a consumer item.

This does not mean we should brush aside all medicines sold at drug stores. A lot of them are results of extensive research and are necessary for specific ailments. But for much of our ordinary aches and pains, we can always look to nature for remedy.

Centuries

It should be recalled that the herb vendor we call *herbolaryo* has been around for centuries and some people swear to the efficacy of his wares. Not too long ago, some people were hailing the existence of "*Botika ng Baryo*" that made herbal and other low-cost medicine available to the masses. Whatever happened to that great idea?

Happily, we found these thoughts echoed in the lecture of Ernesta G. Quintana, an adjunct research professor and project leader at the University of the Philippines Los Baños' National Integrated Research Program on Medicinal Plants.

She spoke on the subject during a regular therapy workshop at UP-Philippine General Hospital's Cancer Institute, and got her audience so interested she was invited to give the same lecture at a second workshop. She embellished her talk with demonstrations on how to "cook" medicinal plants for decoctions and ointments.

Professor Quintana spoke of 10 specific medicinal plants and their curative properties—*akapulko* (an anti-fungicide); *ampalaya*, Makiling variety (lowers blood sugar); *bawang*, local garlic (lowers blood cholesterol); *bayabas*, local guava (an antiseptic); *lagundi* (an expectorant and broncho dilator); *ulasimang bato*, also known as *pansit-pansitan* (lowers blood uric acid); *sambong* (a diuretic and anti-urolithiasis); *tsaang gubat* (anti-colic and anti-diarrhetic); *niyug-niyugan* (for diabetes); and *yerba buena*, or mint (an analgesic).

Growing wild

But there were more than 10 plants of this kind, she said, many of them growing wildly in backyards, some of them so common, they were often considered weeds. The 10 plants she mentioned are all scientifically validated, the methods of their propagation and care all in conformity with policies and guidelines of the World Health Organization and the National Integrated Research Program on Medicinal Plants.

While most data available were for large scale farming, Quintana explained that these plants could be grown at home, as in fact many of them already are. But if a formal garden was being planned, then she advised that the site selected be free from soil pollution—no heavy metals like lead or arsenic, no insecticide residue and high microbial count (factors that should be applicable to water as well)—and from air pollution.

These must be strictly observed to ensure that the plants grew safely and untouched by impurities that would reduce their medicinal benefits. Even the planters, said Quintana, must be clean when they touched the plants.

Recipes

The methods of planting would depend on the part of the plant that contain the medicinal properties—the seeds, stems or leaves—and how they are to be harvested. Quintana had recipes for their preparation. We hope she will put them together in a book one day (she had started to work on this, she said), for there is no doubt that such a book and its information would be a big help to people, especially those with limited budgets.

Ordinary plants in our gardens may be more useful than we realize. It is time we take a better look at them, for they may be the alternative cures we have been seeking all these years.

Incidentally, the interest in medicinal plants is now worldwide. We were able to acquire a magazine called The Herb Quarterly, published in Concord, California, whose articles informed readers of the different types of plants, particularly herbs that could serve as alternative cures.

Among its reports: Cinnamon is good for diabetes and cholesterol; turmeric and sage for Alzheimer's disease. Many of the plants the magazine mentioned, however, are not available here, which would make a similar publication for local readers even more important.

Quintana may be contacted at 2130 Pilak St., Collegeville Subdivision, College, Laguna. Her e-mail is egq02@yahoo.com.

E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com.

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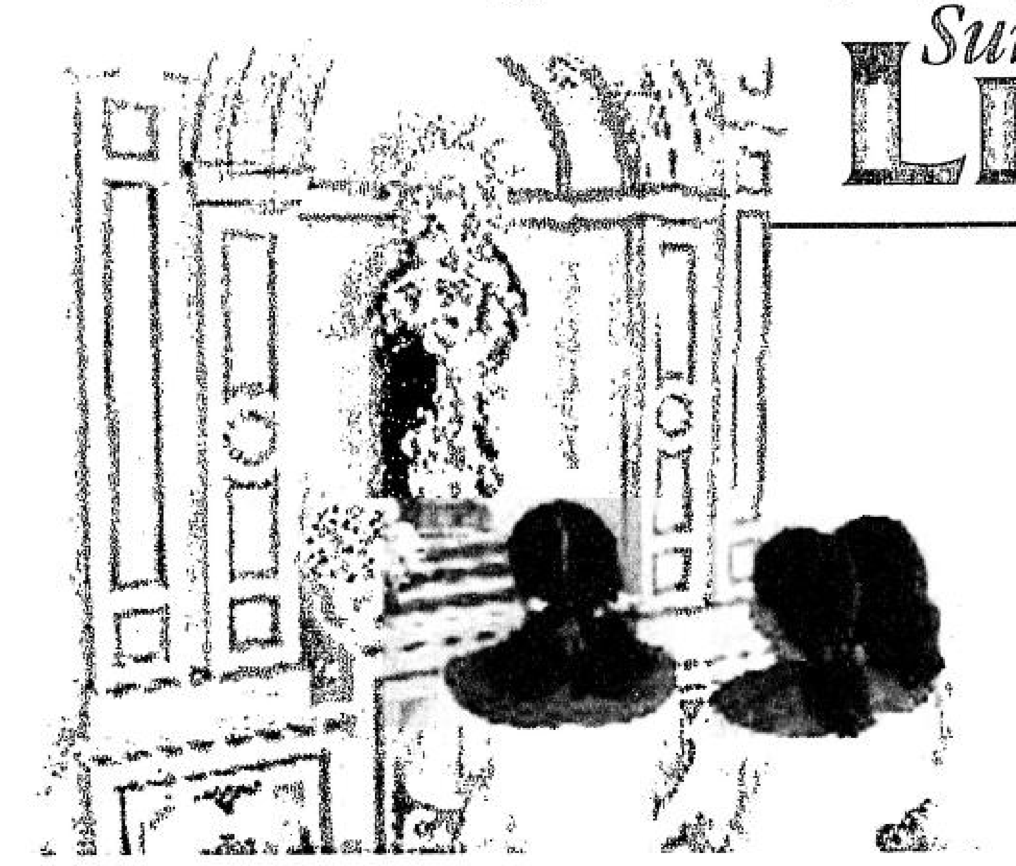


DAILY Mass is celebrated in the school chapel.

A school that transforms lives

Some of the most promising high-school students in the country come from Woodrose School in Ayala Alabang

By Denise Santos-Dizon
Contributor

SECRETIVE AND SOLITARY, 11-year-old Tintin entered the brick walls of Woodrose with the same silent resignation she showed on her first day at the last two schools she had previously attended. What would be different, she wondered, another year, another school. To Tintin's surprise, this year—this school—would change her life.

Tintin made her first friend that day. Introducing herself as Tintin's "tutor," Miss Roman asked her what her hobbies were, which books she read. Initially nonplussed, Tintin began to look forward to their regular "tutorial chat," an open forum between her tutor and herself where no topic was off-limits.

Soon, Miss Roman was invaluable: a patient confidante, a wise adviser and an unconditional friend. The monthly chat would prevail long after Tintin's red plaid uniform had been handed down to younger siblings, and their friendship would last a lifetime.

Tintin gained confidence, developed conviction and built a solid moral foundation. Tintin became a Woodrose Girl.

The idea of Woodrose—an all-girls' school that would uphold traditional Christian values in the education of the youth—was spawned nearly three decades ago, in 1976. Paref (Parents for Education Foundation, a non-stock, nonprofit organization) saw the need for an education that addressed every aspect of a person: physical, social, intellectual, moral and spiritual.

The school and the parents would become partners, Paref had envisioned, close collaborators in the education of the students, actively supporting their scholastic, psychological and physiological growth.

"We knew that a school that provides an integral education—with the close participation of the parents—would produce intelligent young women with the right Christian values, who would later become role models in society," said Chona Mapa, who was part of the Paref team that first conceived Woodrose.

In June 1977, in a two-story house in New Manila, Paref Woodrose School opened its doors to 76 students, from Grades I-V.

Woodrose has grown considerably since then, and now, on its 28th year of operation, enrolls 1,000 students in all grade levels in the red brick buildings and lush green lawns on its permanent campus in Ayala Alabang.

Unique system

The Woodrose education style focuses on the tutorial system. In this unique mentoring program, each student is matched with a member of the Woodrose faculty or management staff, who would become her personal guidance counselor, her "tutor."

Through regular one-on-one discussions—dubbed tutorial chats—the student shares concerns, voices opinions and poses questions. The tutor listens and provides advice. Quarterly, she also meets with the student's parents to discuss the student's progress.

"It was hard to appreciate it while I was studying because it had seemed so normal to me," said alumna Anca Bautista of batch 1998. "Looking back, however, I realize how those regular chats were the school's way of giving me undivided attention and support."

"There's nothing better for character formation than having a tutor—a friend and confidante—to teach, help and sometimes just listen," said Maita Abesa of batch 2004. "Mine helped me maintain sanity and strength, and I can't thank her enough for that."

Intimate classes

Woodrose has kept class sizes to a minimum. Her growing student population has not changed the number of students in a class—an average of 28—even while in other all-girls' schools, this number has alarmingly soared to the 40s and 50s.

Woodrose has also retained an extraordinarily optimal teacher-student ratio of 1:11, while some of it's counterparts have declined to 1:25.

Thus, dancers, poets, composers and mathematicians are discovered at an early age in the intimate classrooms of Woodrose: their gifts encouraged, their special skills honed.

"I moved my daughter to Woodrose because of the small class sizes," said a Woodrose mother.

"An unusually shy girl, her tutor and teachers helped her come out of her shell, and even discovered her writing talent."

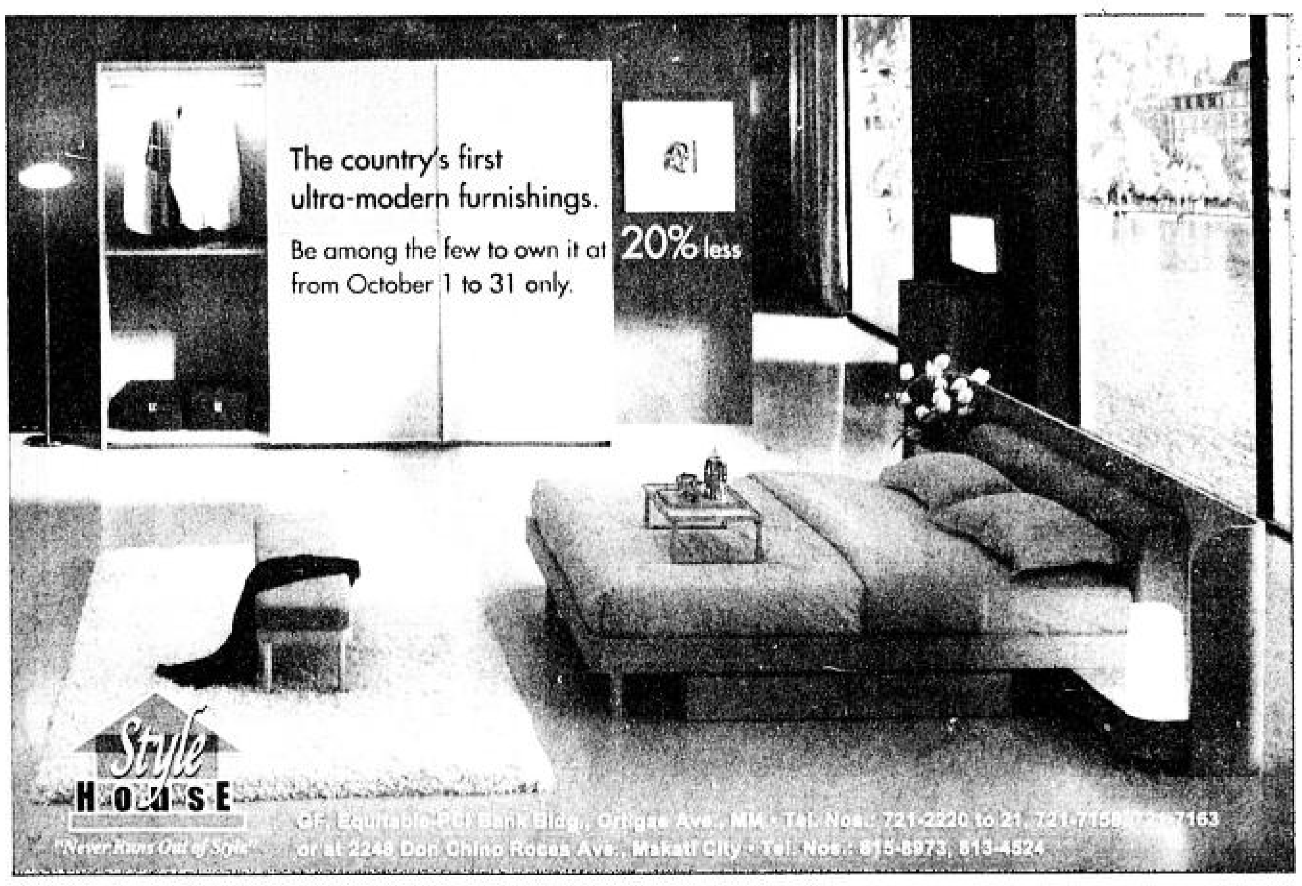
Alumna Leah Puyat of batch 1986 said, "When people praise my communication or reasoning skills, I have to make a silent gesture of gratitude to my composition, literature and philosophy teachers at Woodrose."

Spiritual formation

"Education is all about transforming lives," says Delia Udani, the school's executive director. "It has to touch not only the mind, but also the heart and soul, the individual's entire being."

Daily mass is celebrated in the school chapel. There are also regular recollections, retreats and talks for students, faculty, staff, parents and alumnae, which are tailored to suit their specific circumstance and life experiences.

The most promising high school graduates in the country, Woodrose students are welcomed by all the top colleges and universities in the Philippines.



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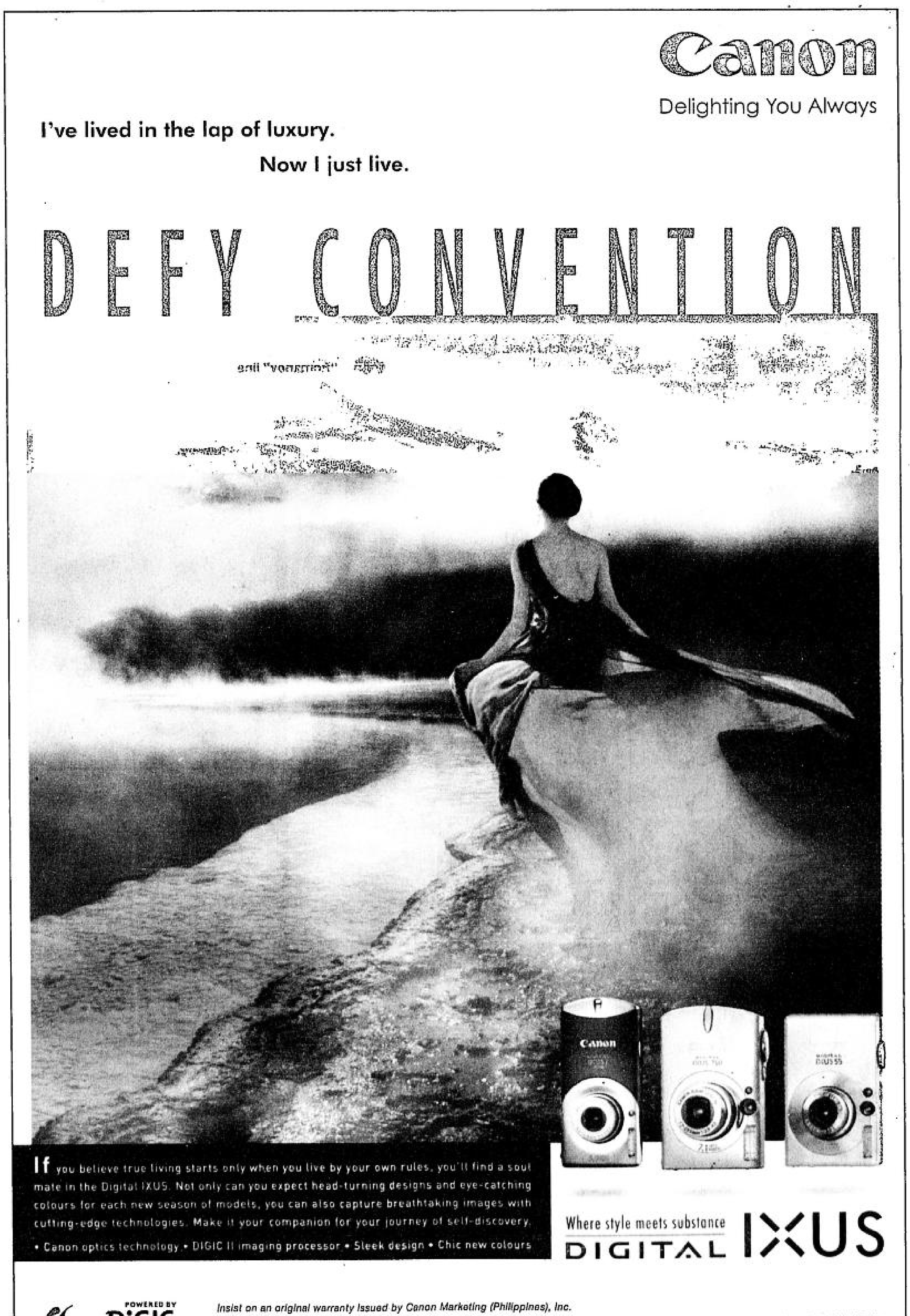

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RAGNAROK

BY MARC REYES & TAGA-ILOG

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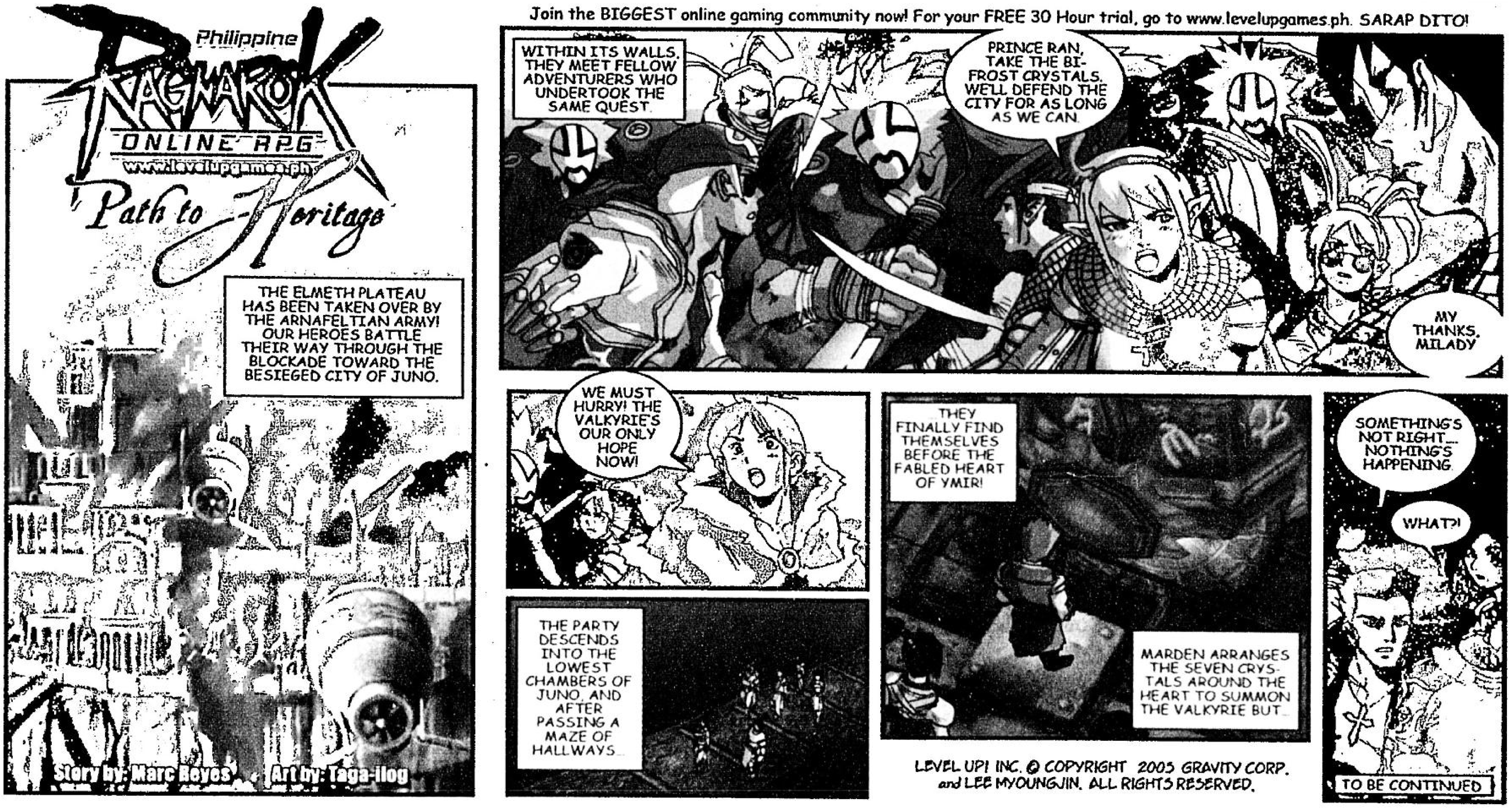
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Path to Heritage
THE ELMETH PLATEAU HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE ARNAFELTIAN ARMY! OUR HEROES BATTLE THEIR WAY THROUGH THE BLOCKADE TOWARD THE BESIEGED CITY OF JUNO.
Story by: Marc Reyes
Art by: Taga-ilog
WITHIN ITS WALLS, THEY MEET FELLOW ADVENTURERS WHO UNDERTOOK THE SAME QUEST.
PRINCE RAN, TAKE THE BI-FROST CRYSTALS. WE'LL DEFEND THE CITY FOR AS LONG AS WE CAN.
MY THANKS, MILADY
WE MUST HURRY! THE VALKYRIE'S OUR ONLY HOPE NOW!
THE PARTY DESCENDS INTO THE LOWEST CHAMBERS OF JUNO, AND AFTER PASSING A MAZE OF HALLWAYS...
...THEY FINALLY FIND THEMSELVES BEFORE THE FABLED HEART OF YMIR!
MARDEN ARRANGES THE SEVEN CRYSTALS AROUND THE HEART TO SUMMON THE VALKYRIE BUT...
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT... NOTHING'S HAPPENING.
WHAT?!
TO BE CONTINUED

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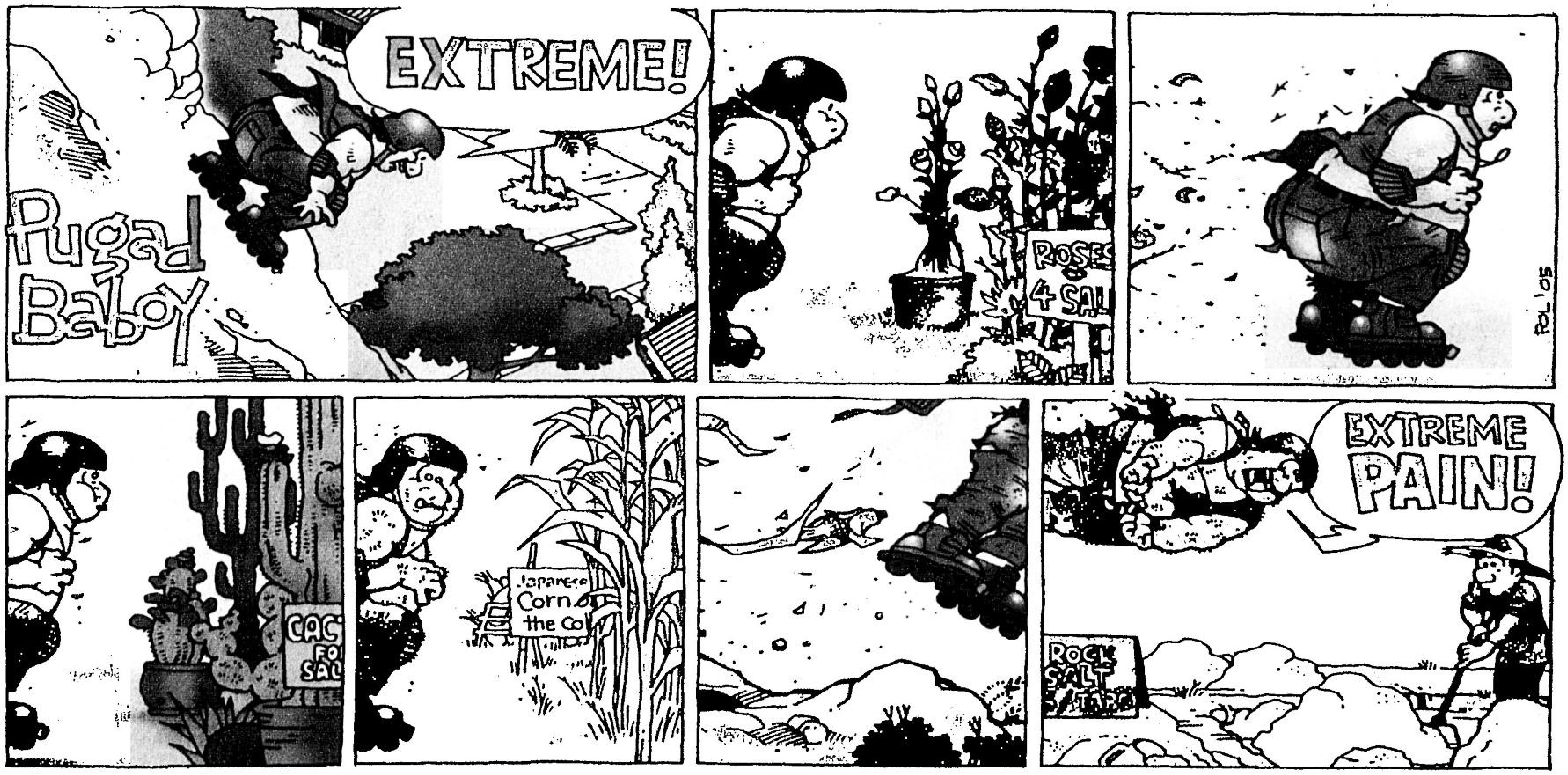
PUGAD BABOY

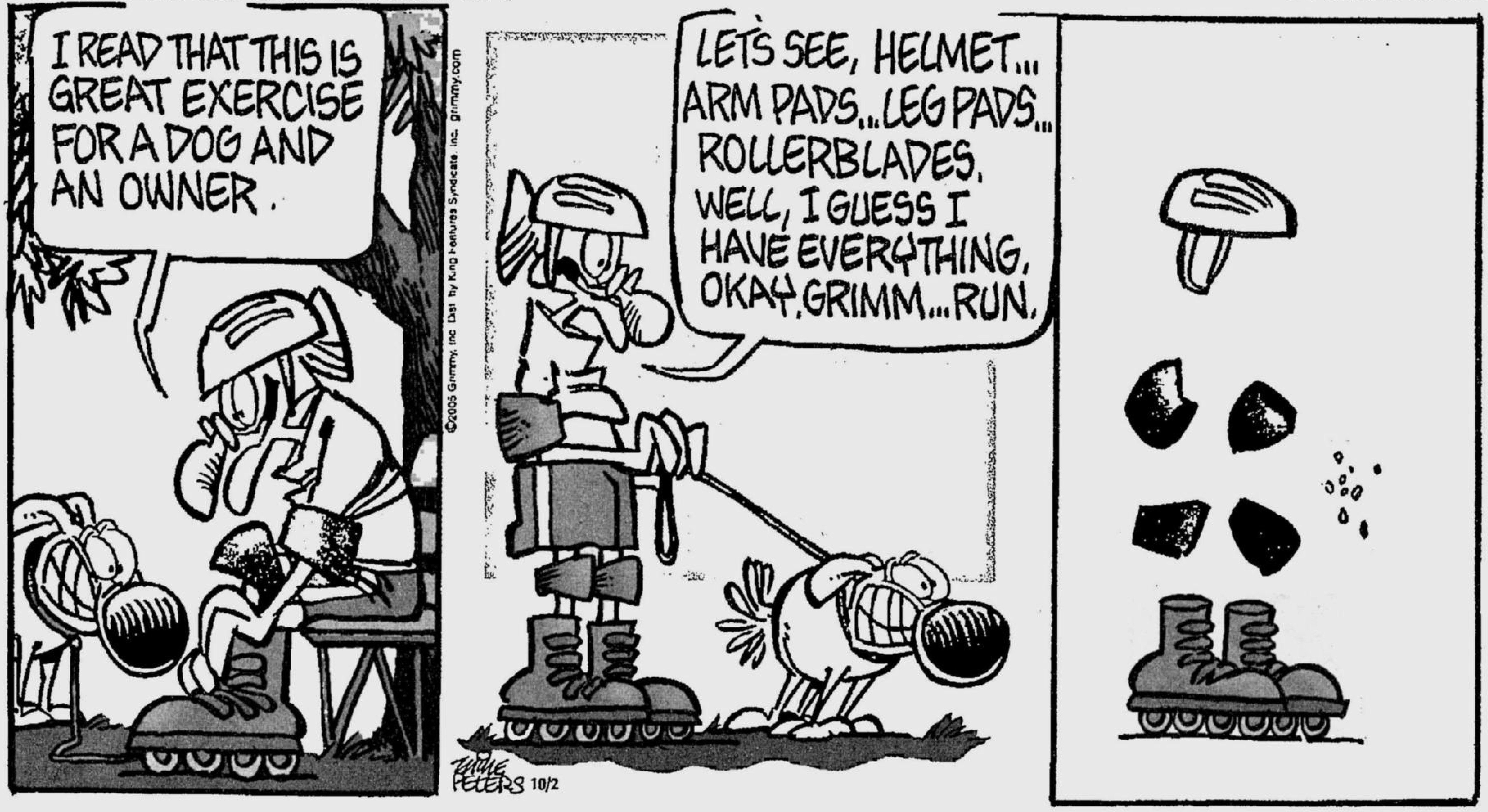
BY POL MEDINA JR.


EXTREME!
Pugad Baboy
ROSES 4 SAL
POL '05
CAC FOR SAL
Japanese Corn the Co
EXTREME PAIN!
ROCK SALT S/TABO

FOLLOW THE FOLD TO GET TO MIDGARD

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


I READ THAT THIS IS GREAT EXERCISE FOR A DOG AND AN OWNER.
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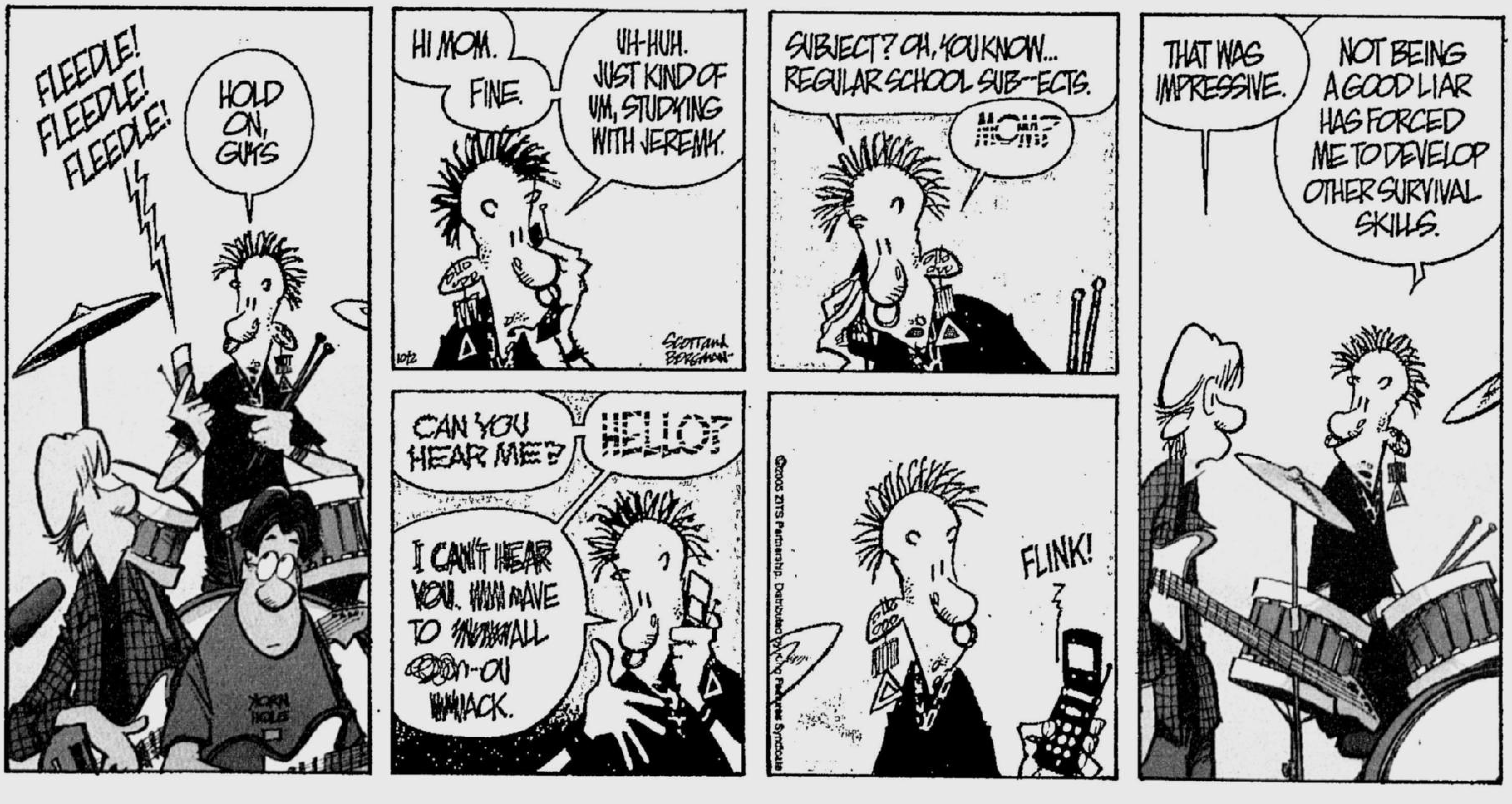
LET'S SEE, HELMET... ARM PADS... LEG PADS... ROLLERBLADES. WELL, I GUESS I HAVE EVERYTHING. OKAY, GRIMM... RUN.
MIKE PETERS 10/2

ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


FLEEDLE! FLEEDLE! FLEEDLE!
HOLD ON, GUYS
KORN HOLE
HI MOM.
FINE.
UH-HUH. JUST KIND OF UM, STUDYING WITH JEREMY.
10/2
SCOTT AND BORGMAN
SUBJECT? OH, YOU KNOW... REGULAR SCHOOL SUB--ECTS.
MOM?
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
HELLO?
I CAN'T HEAR YOU. [illegible] HAVE TO [illegible]ALL [illegible]N-OU [illegible]ACK.
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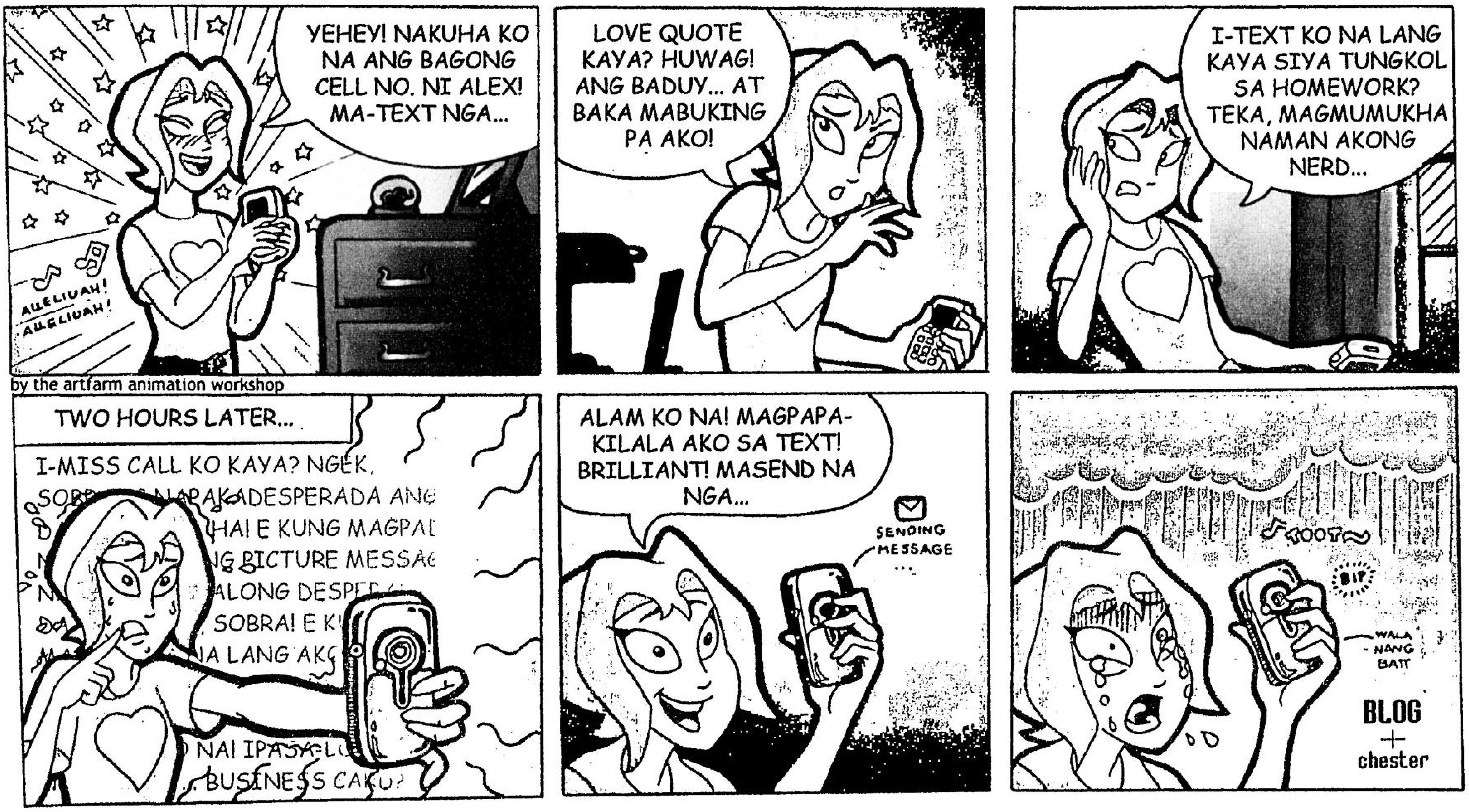
FLINK!
THAT WAS IMPRESSIVE.
NOT BEING A GOOD LIAR HAS FORCED ME TO DEVELOP OTHER SURVIVAL SKILLS.

INDAY WANDA

BY BLOG CALIGUIA


YEHEY! NAKUHA KO NA ANG BAGONG CELL NO. NI ALEX! MA-TEXT NGA...
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TWO HOURS LATER...
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ALAM KO NA! MAGPAPA-KILALA AKO SA TEXT! BRILLIANT! MASEND NA NGA...
SENDING MESSAGE ...
TOOT
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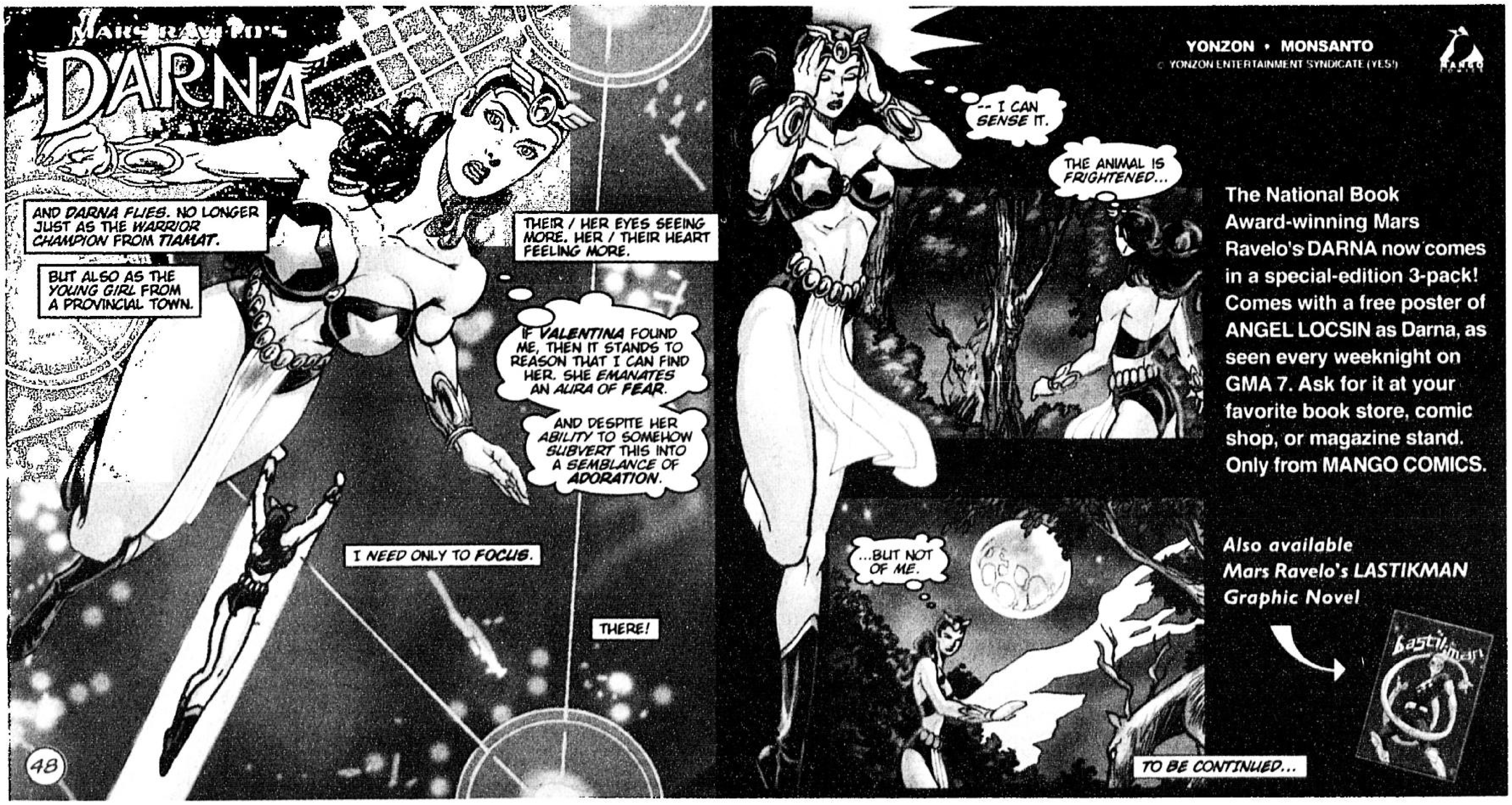
BLOG + chester

by the artfarm animation workshop

DARNA

BY MANGO COMICS


MARS RAVELO'S
DARNA
AND DARNA FLIES. NO LONGER JUST AS THE WARRIOR CHAMPION FROM TIAMAT.
BUT ALSO AS THE YOUNG GIRL FROM A PROVINCIAL TOWN.
THEIR / HER EYES SEEING MORE. HER / THEIR HEART FEELING MORE.
IF VALENTINA FOUND ME, THEN IT STANDS TO REASON THAT I CAN FIND HER. SHE EMANATES AN AURA OF FEAR.
AND DESPITE HER ABILITY TO SOMEHOW SUBVERT THIS INTO A SEMBLANCE OF ADORATION.
I NEED ONLY TO FOCUS.
THERE!
48
-- I CAN SENSE IT.
THE ANIMAL IS FRIGHTENED...
...BUT NOT OF ME.
TO BE CONTINUED...
Lastikman

YONZON • MONSANTO
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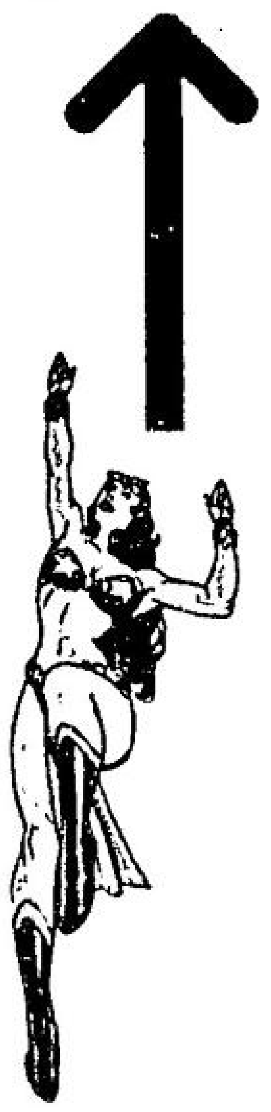
The National Book Award-winning Mars Ravelo's DARNA now comes in a special-edition 3-pack! Comes with a free poster of ANGEL LOCSIN as Darna, as seen every weeknight on GMA 7. Ask for it at your favorite book store, comic shop, or magazine stand. Only from MANGO COMICS.

Also available
Mars Ravelo's LASTIKMAN
Graphic Novel

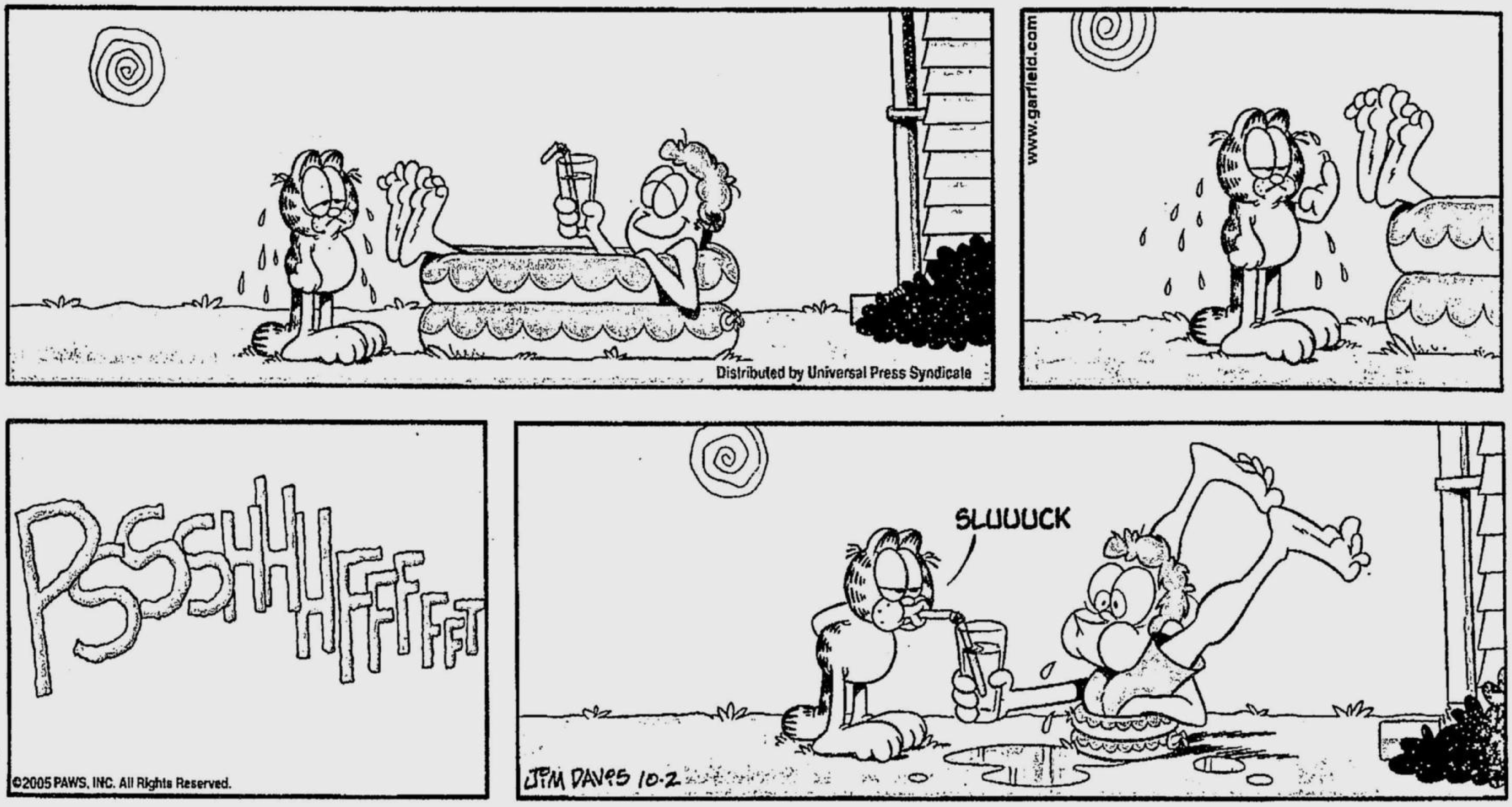


A.

FOLD OUT AT CENTER TO GET THE BIG PICTURE

GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS


www.garfield.com
PSSSHHHFFFFFT
SLUUUCK
JIM DAVIS 10-2

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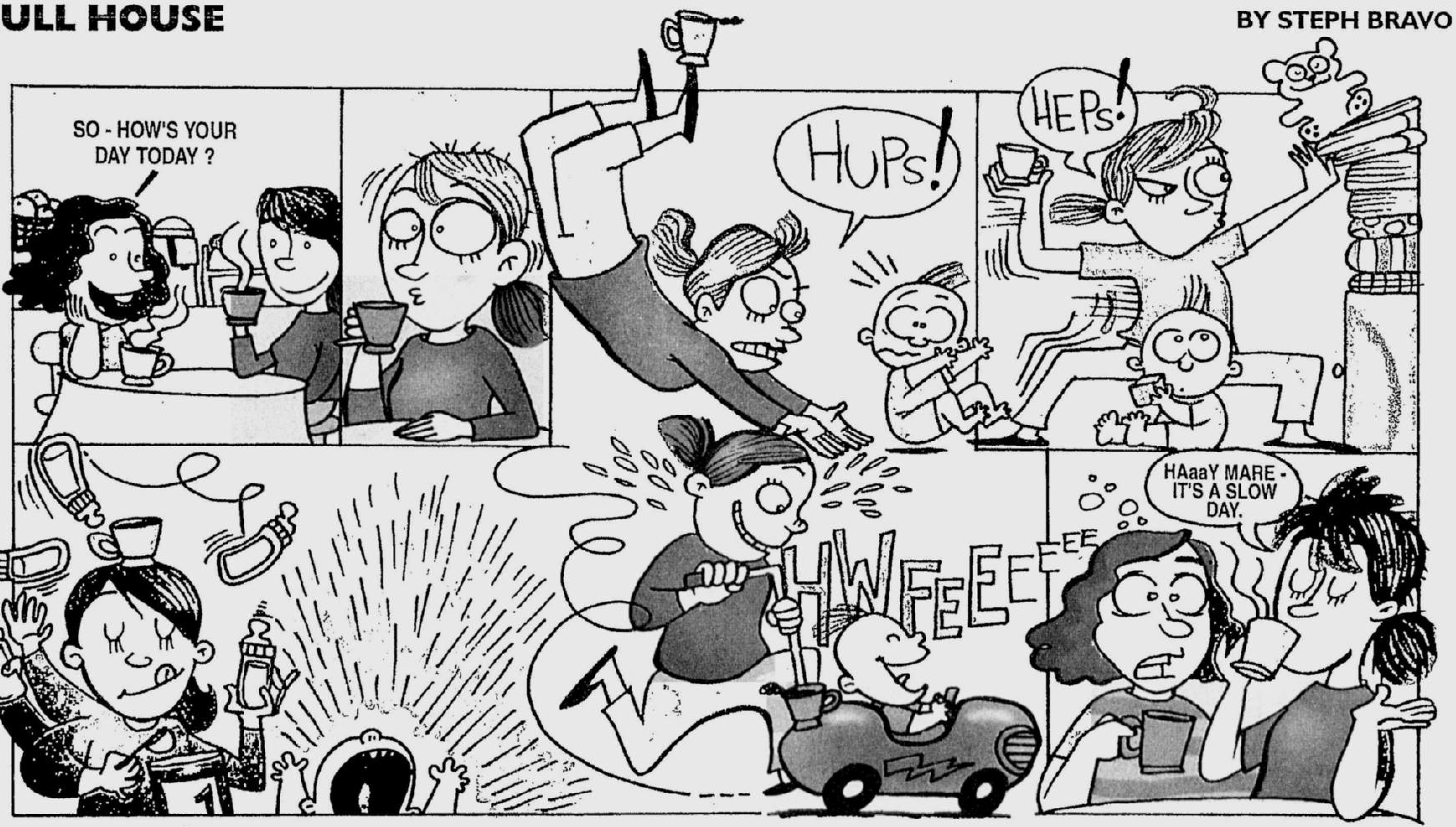
FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO


SO - HOW'S YOUR DAY TODAY ?
HUPs!
HEPs!
HWFEEEEEE
HAaaY MARE - IT'S A SLOW DAY.

B. TURN THE PAGE TO GET IT RIGHT

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Celebrating Portuguese art, cuisine, music and life

THE PORTUGUESE FESTIVAL begins at Rustan's Makati on Oct. 4. The formal inaugural ceremony opens with speeches from the Portuguese Ambassador and Ambassador Bienvenido Tantoco Sr. of Rustan Commercial Corporation celebrating the rich culture of Portugal and continuing Portugal-Philippines relations.

An exhibition of Portuguese food and table decorations by the prestigious painter, Phyllis Zaballero, will also be unveiled. Earlier this year on June 10, Portugal's National Day, Zaballero painted a series of works about Portuguese traditional windows.

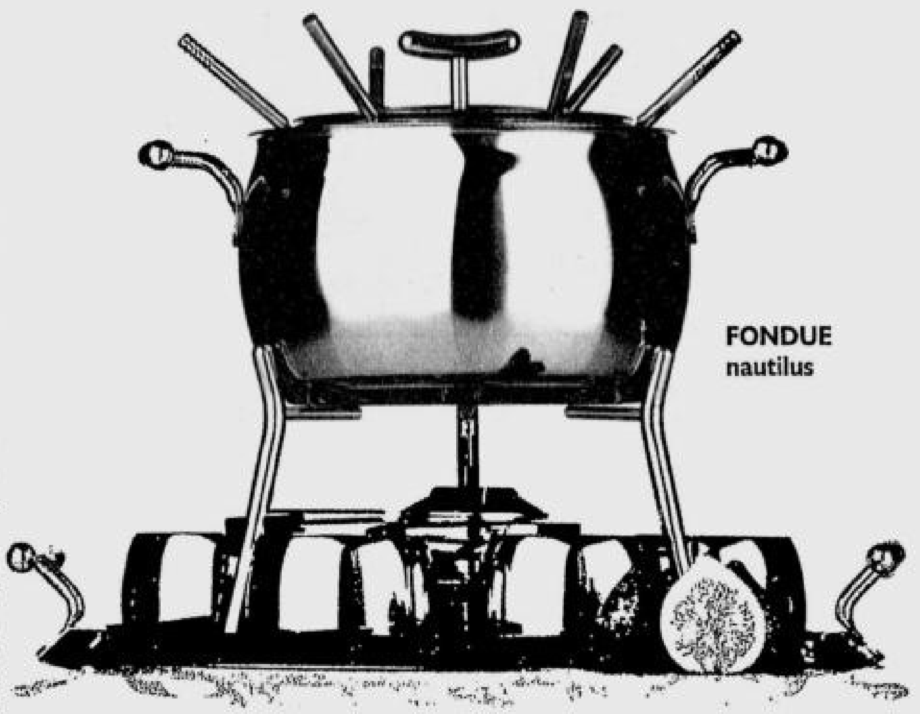
Also part of the festival is a fair of Portuguese products, including ceramics, cutleries, religious articles, kitchen utensils, food products and wines. Four Portuguese companies have sponsored this year's Festival: Herdmar (cutleries), Silampos (kitchen utensils), Aveleda (wines) and Caves Dom Teodosio (wines). The products of these companies will be shown at the embassy residence during the festival. Directors of the participating companies will fly from Portugal to be present at the festival opening.

A Portuguese food festival starts Oct. 4 at the InterContinental Hotel featuring the cuisine of chef Luis Americo, who owns some well-known restaurants in Portugal and was named "Portuguese Chef of the Year-2004" by the highly acclaimed gastronomic magazine, Edições do Gosto.

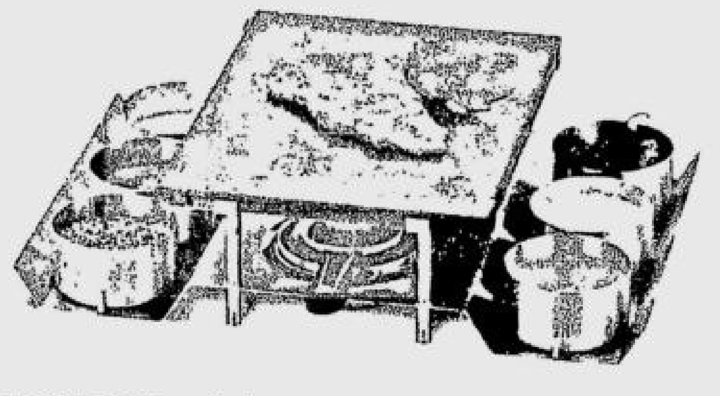
The festival will also have a religious component. Rustan's will host a celebration of the last apparition of Our Lady to the three shepherds in Fatima at 9 a.m., Oct. 16. A replica of Our Lady will be enthroned in Rustan's Makati on Oct. 4, and all the visitors will have the opportunity to venerate the image after that date.

The Festival will end with a concert of the prestigious Portuguese percussionist, Pedro Carneiro, at the Ballroom of InterContinental Hotel on Oct. 24. Carneiro is the most distinguished Portuguese percussionist. He is one of the very few percussion players to have made an international career as a soloist and has established himself as one of the world's famous solo percussionists, performing regularly throughout Europe, the Far East and USA. He has been a frequent soloist with numerous orchestras and has performed and conducted the world premiere of over 70 works, and appears regularly with a wide range of acclaimed musicians.

The festival is supported by many institutions and companies, in Portugal and the Philippines, among them Rustan Commercial Corporation, Department of Foreign Affairs, Air France/KLM, InterContinental Hotel and Ralph's Wines & Spirits. In Portugal, the External Trade Institute, the Portuguese Cultural Institute, Gulbenkian and Orient Foundations and the companies Herdmar, Silampos, Aveleda and Caves Dom Teodosio are sponsoring the events.



FONDUE nautilus



GRELHADORES quadrados

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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Haven of hope for abused kids

KRISTEL EMBODIES resilience at a tender age. She was able to survive a traumatic experience and forgive those who hurt her. She has also learned to persevere and to set her eyes on things that can alleviate her present condition.

At 8, Kristel was habitually beaten up by her parents. She was picky on food and, once, when she refused to eat, her mother hit her with a steel pipe. A concerned neighbor reported this to Bantay Bata 163, which ,intervened and began counseling both Kristel and her parents.

Bantay Bata 163 recognizes that one long-term solution to solve child abuse and alleviate poverty in cases like Kristel's is through education.

Many agencies have long been offering scholarship grants and most require students to have good academic standing. Unfortunately for those like Kristel, emotional and psychological scars likely result to a negative performance in school.

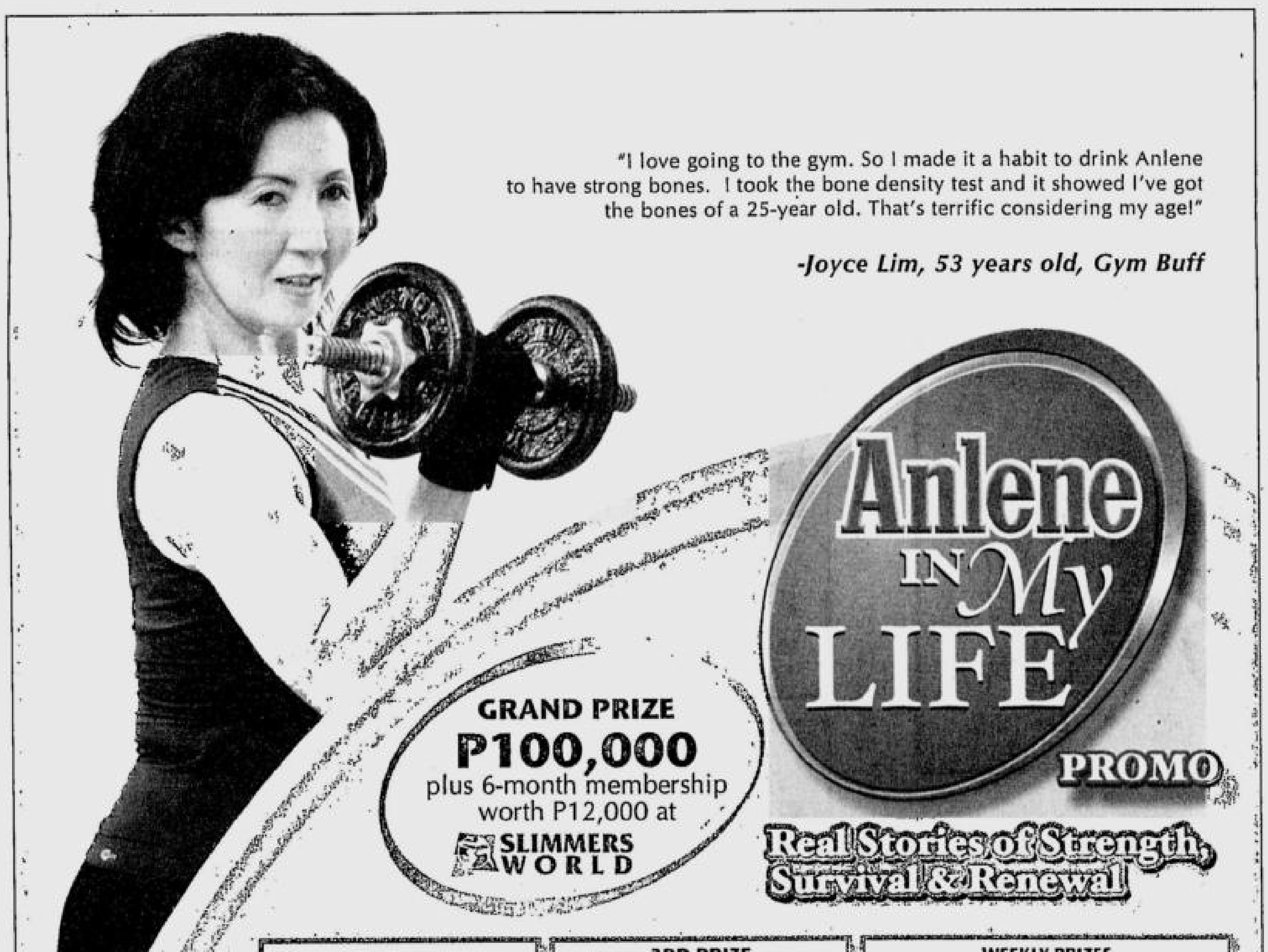
Thus, Bantay Bata 163 established its education program primarily to help educate abused children. With the financial support it gets from its donors, it has extended its services to include children recommended by social workers from various local government units and other nongovernment organizations. These children receive clothing allowance, school supplies, miscellaneous school fees, monthly allowance, transportation and school project allowance.

Aside from educational assistance, the children and their families are constantly monitored on their status and welfare through home visitation. Even after the children are returned to their families, Bantay Bata 163 provides counseling to educate the family on strengthening relationships.

Parents and/or guardians are trained by social workers on parenting and communication skills, while children are tutored and taught other skills to develop and realize their full potential and become productive members of society.

It has been five years since the traumatic beatings transpired, and Kristel has now rejoined her family. Her parents have also altered the way they discipline their children and have began guiding other parents with similar problems as well.

In school, Kristel is now consistently at the top of her class. She even took the initiative to study at a science school in her city. As she aspires to become a lawyer someday, Kristel is confident that with guardians like Bantay Bata 163, she will never be alone.



"I love going to the gym. So I made it a habit to drink Anlene to have strong bones. I took the bone density test and it showed I've got the bones of a 25-year old. That's terrific considering my age!"
-Joyce Lim, 53 years old, Gym Buff

Anlene IN My LIFE PROMO
Real Stories of Strength, Survival & Renewal

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P100,000
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2ND PRIZE
1-year membership at Slimmers World worth P30,000

3RD PRIZE
Adidas sports package worth P10,000 plus 3-month membership at Slimmers World worth P7,000

WEEKLY PRIZES
23 winners of P5,000 cash, ANLENE gift packs, plus a 3-day workout and Nutracell face treatment at Slimmers World worth P2,500

Send your stories and be featured on GMA-7's Unang Hirit !

Mechanics:
1. Promo period runs from September 26 - December 4, 2005. Only entries received by November 25, 2005 will be included in the promo.
2. To qualify, candidates must be 30 years old and above and must be an ANLENE drinker.
3. Consumers can send in their own story or the story of someone they know. Stories must be about real-life experiences that celebrate physical strength or recovery from certain medical conditions and how ANLENE has been instrumental in living life to the fullest.
4. Send your stories, preferrably typewritten, to:
ANLENE In My Life
c/o New Zealand Milk (Philippines), Inc.
19th Floor Cyber One Tower
11 Eastwood Avenue, Eastwood City
Cyber Park, Quezon City 1110
Or drop in dropboxes at:
GMA Network
Edsa cor. Timog Avenue
Quezon City
5. Enclose the following:
a. 1 recent photograph or short video that captures the essence of the person's story.
b. 1 body label (425g or 750g) or 1 scooper (1kg) or 1 box of any ANLENE product as proof of purchase.
c. Write the following information:
For Personal Entries
Name, age, address, contact numbers and signature
For Nominations
Name, age, address, contact numbers, relationship to nominee, and signature of sender
Name, age, address, contact numbers and signature of nominee
The prize is awarded to the one who nominated the candidate.
6. Criteria for judging will be as follows:
* Relevance to ANLENE (ANLENE's role in his/her story) -50%
* Uniqueness of story - 40%
* Significance of photograph or video to the story - 10%
7. Weekly story finalists will be read and reenacted on Unang Hirit every Monday, Wednesday and Friday starting Oct.10. There will be 3 finalists per week for 7 weeks and 2 finalists on the 8th or final week, with a total of 23 finalists.
8. New Zealand Milk (Phils.), Inc. with a BFAD representative will choose one Grand Prize winner, one Second Prize winner and one Third Prize winner from the 23 finalists.
9. Final awarding of prizes will be held at SOP on December 4, 2005.
10. All photographs and videos sent as entries will become the property of New Zealand Milk (Phils.), Inc. and may be used for publicity purposes.
11. In case of dispute, the decision of New Zealand Milk (Phils.), Inc. with the concurrence of BFAD shall be deemed final.
12. A consumer can send in as many stories, but a finalist can only win once.
13. All winners will be notified via phone call and registered mail.
14. All prizes are not convertible to cash, but Slimmers World memberships are transferable.
15. All winners can claim their prizes from the New Zealand Milk (Phils.), Inc. office within 60 days of notification. Prizes not claimed within 60 days shall be forfeited with prior approval of BFAD.
16. Employees of New Zealand Milk (Phils.), Inc., its advertising agencies and affiliates, down to the 2nd degree of affinity and consanguinity are disqualified from joining the promo.

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IMMORTELLE
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Flower of youth

Immortelle actualizes the myth of the fountain of youth through natural products that rejuvenate the skin

L'OCCITANE Immortelle's Young Hands, Brightening Serum and Lip Lift

By Allison W. Lopez

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE fountain of youth is in the Mediterranean island of Corsica?

To be precise, it's actually the "flower" of youth that grows on its soil. Also known as Everlasting, these flowers retain their form and color even after they have been picked. Even Greek legend has it that famed hero Ulysses, after being shipwrecked on the island of Phaecia, regained the strength of a young man through the Immortelle flower. He was said to be given a vial of its golden oil by the king's daughter, who was known for her goddess-like beauty, and was said to anoint herself with the same extract.

And it is with this small but legendary yellow flower, the Immortelle, that L'Occitane created an anti-aging line for women in their 30s and beyond.

By stimulating the blood circulation of the skin, Immortelle's essential oil encourages oxygenation and nutrition of cells, which in turn boost cell renewal.

L'Occitane's star line has 16 products that vow to improve microcirculation and cellular nourishment for your face and body. Depending on your need, you can choose from the variety of cleansers, toners, moisturizers and specialized treatments.

Brightening

Brightening is definitely the new whitening. The process evens out your skin tone, resulting in a radiant, young look, instead of a pasty-white complexion.

The Brightening Polish is a gentle facial polish that helps remove dead, dry skin cells with its exfoliating ingredient, the Wintergreen extract. Mulberry extract brightens the overall complexion while Immortelle's oil helps stimulate circulation. It is used once or twice a week.

To boost results, apply the Brightening Serum, a daily skincare treatment that lightens age spots and regulates the production of melanin. The most expensive product in the range, the serum also has Vitamin C as its active ingredient. Its matte finish provides an excellent base for your makeup.

For a cleanser in solid form, use the Dermatological Soap, but for a creamy lather, you may use the Foaming Milk.

Cleansing impurities

To make sure there are no traces of makeup and other skin impurities, apply the best-selling Essential Water for the Face. What makes this alcohol-free toner easy to apply is its spritz bottle. You can stash it in your kit and spray it to refresh your face. There's one for your body, too.

The Immortelle line has an abundance of moisturizers to emphasize the importance of the ritual in keeping skin young.

The Essential Lotion and the Precious Fluid are light moisturizers that are perfect for day, while the richer Precious Cream can be used as a night-time treatment. But for active women who need a dose of protection from the sun's harmful rays, the Protective Lotion with SPF 15 is the right choice.

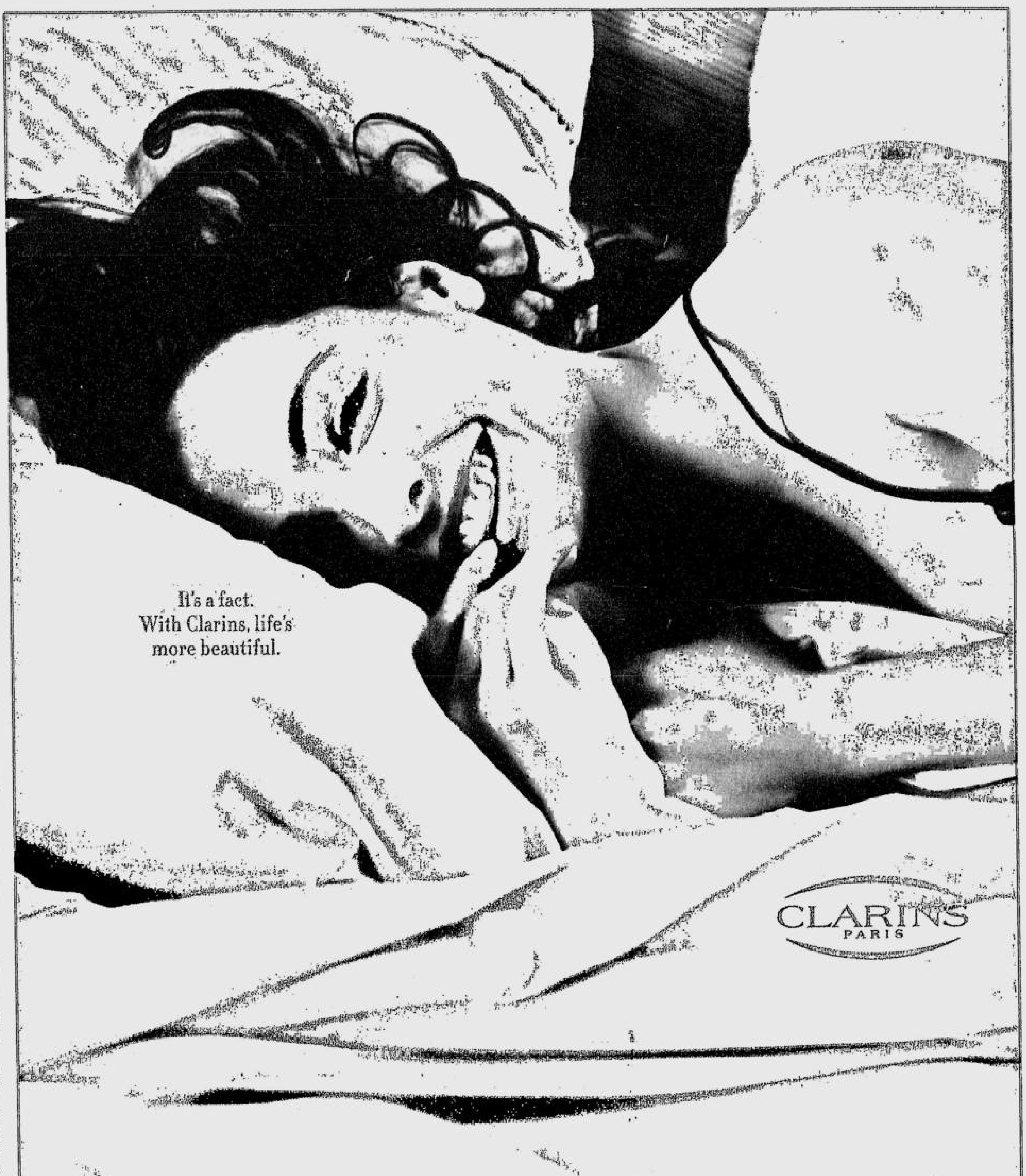
Of course, your body deserves some tender loving, too. With the Vitality Serum, your skin is not only moisturized (as what common lotions do)—it's also protected from aging since it has the benefits of Immortelle's essential oils.

For a stronger anti-aging face treatment, Elixir is the answer. As it has a high concentration of Immortelle essential oil, the Elixir makes for an intense skin therapy. The Cream Mask is another option for those with very dry skin to help remove dead skin cells, rejuvenate the face and improve firmness.

L'Occitane also created specific treatments for areas that show the first signs of aging. The Eye Balm diminishes dark circles, puffiness and lines on the eyes' delicate skin, while the Lip Lift plumps up your kissers and make them look youthful by reducing flaking. It is also said to improve the hold of lip color for 75 percent of women who road-tested this product.

Young Hands, meanwhile, is a lightweight and non-greasy cream that reduces age spots and pigmentation marks. It also has SPF 15 to prevent new spots from forming, and moisturizers to cure dryness.

Prices range from P1,845 to P3,645. L'Occitane's Immortelle line is available at Rustan's Essenses outlets.



One morning you wake up. You're 40. And it doesn't show. **This morning, give yourself a gift: many more years of youthfulness. Thanks to Clarins Extra-Firming treatments and their potent age-control ingredients, your skin maintains its radiance and firmness longer. Happy birthday.**

Extra-Firming Day and Night Creams, advanced and innovative age control that helps protect fragile skin cells to reveal *younger-looking skin*. Plant-based ingredients in the day cream (*Euglena, White Tea, Succory Dock-Cress, etc.*) provide energy and promote skin firmness. Vitamin E and Alfalfa in the night cream help revitalize and renew.

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Lift Anti-Rides Jour
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Extra-Firming Day Cream

CLARINS
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MULTI-REGENERANTE
Extra-Firming Night Cream

NEW

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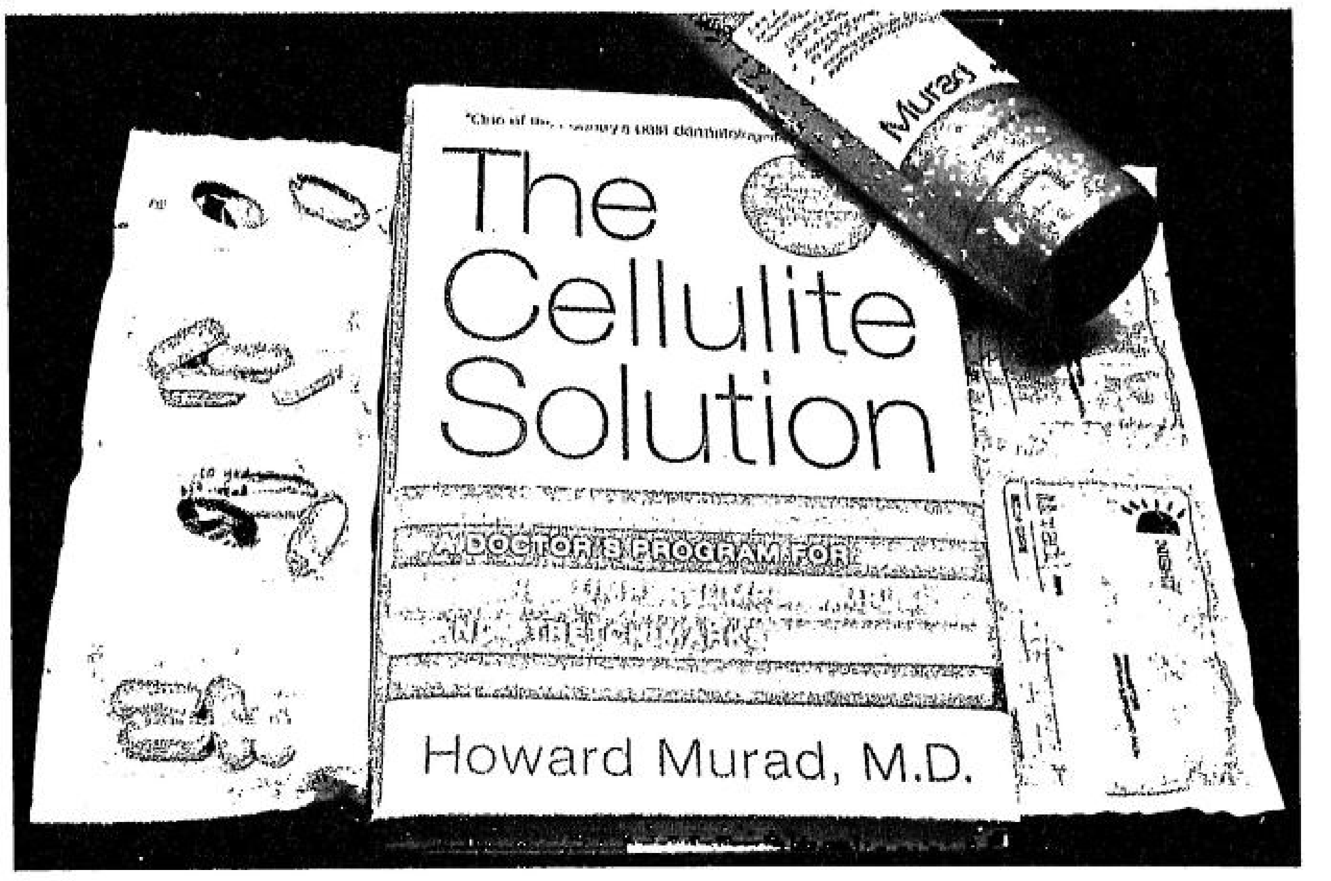
Goodbye, cellulite

By Pam Pastor

Say no to cottage-cheese thighs with Dr. Howard Murad's three-pronged anti-cellulite plan



TRUE or false, cellulite may be burned off with exercise. Cellulite is only found in overweight people. Cellulite does not affect thin people.

The answer to all three statements? False.

These are just some of the cellulite myths that Dr. Howard Murad dispels in his book "The Cellulite Solution."

Dr. Murad, CEO and founder of Murad Inc., Associate Clinical Professor of Dermatology at UCLA and proclaimed as one of the best US dermatologists by Vogue, reveals secrets about cellulite and how to beat it.

Believe it or not, while men are lucky not to be as prone to this condition, 90 percent of women are plagued by some form of cellulite. And contrary to what a lot of people think, it is not caused by too much fat in the body.

"The actual cause of cellulite is water damage and weakening of the skin cells and connective tissue," writes Dr. Murad. Heredity is also another factor. If your mother has cellulite, there's a huge chance you'll have it, too.

Cellulite-prone zones of the body include the inner, outer and posterior thighs, inner knees, upper and lower abdomen, hips, buttocks, lower back, ankles and the back of upper arms.

And while many people—both experts and women suffering from cellulite who have tried every method and product in the market—have given up, Dr. Murad is one person determined to win the battle against cellulite.

In his book, he discusses the first definitive roadmap to reducing dimpling and improving stretch marks that is actually supported by science. His groundbreaking program outlines nutritional and lifestyle modifications combined with topical treatments for a system that works to give the body all the tools it needs to repair uneven lumpy skin.

Dr. Murad's methods allow the water that people drink to penetrate into cells, making them stronger and healthier, reducing aging, disease and problems such as cellulite.

Supplements

One part of the program is taking supplements.

Dr. Murad arms people with his Murad Firm and Tone Dietary Supplement Pack for Cellulite and Stretch Mark Management (P5,500). It promises to encourage the appearance of skin by up to 78 percent in eight weeks and help improve the visual texture of stretch marks by up to 47 percent in eight weeks.

The box contains 28 daily packets of supplements (seven tablets for the day and six tablets for the night) for a four-week supply. The multivitamin and antioxidant dietary supplements promote healthy skin function and microcirculation, improving skin's smoothness and visual appearance. The essential fatty acids help hydrate the skin with water-attracting ingredients.

The cell energizer dietary supplements help prevent skin cell damage while promoting cellular energy production. The connective tissue dietary supplements strengthen blood vessels, promote collagen and elastin production and improve skin elasticity and firmness.

Treatment

The second part is the topical treatment.

Murad's Firm and Tone Serum for Cellulite and Stretch Mark Management (P2,950) promises to improve the overall appearance of the skin up to 94 percent by reducing the appearance of cellulite by up to 77 percent and increasing the skin's firmness while masking imperfections.

The serum contains encapsulated liposomes that deliver potent active ingredients to the skin. Cayenne pepper invigorates the circulation within the skin, horse chestnut tree extract and tiger's herb restore firmer and smoother skin, while cats claw, an extract from the Amazonian forest, reduces the inflammatory appearance of dimpled skin.

Using both products at the same time allows the skin to function at its highest level, making it more resilient and firm and minimizing future damage.

Diet

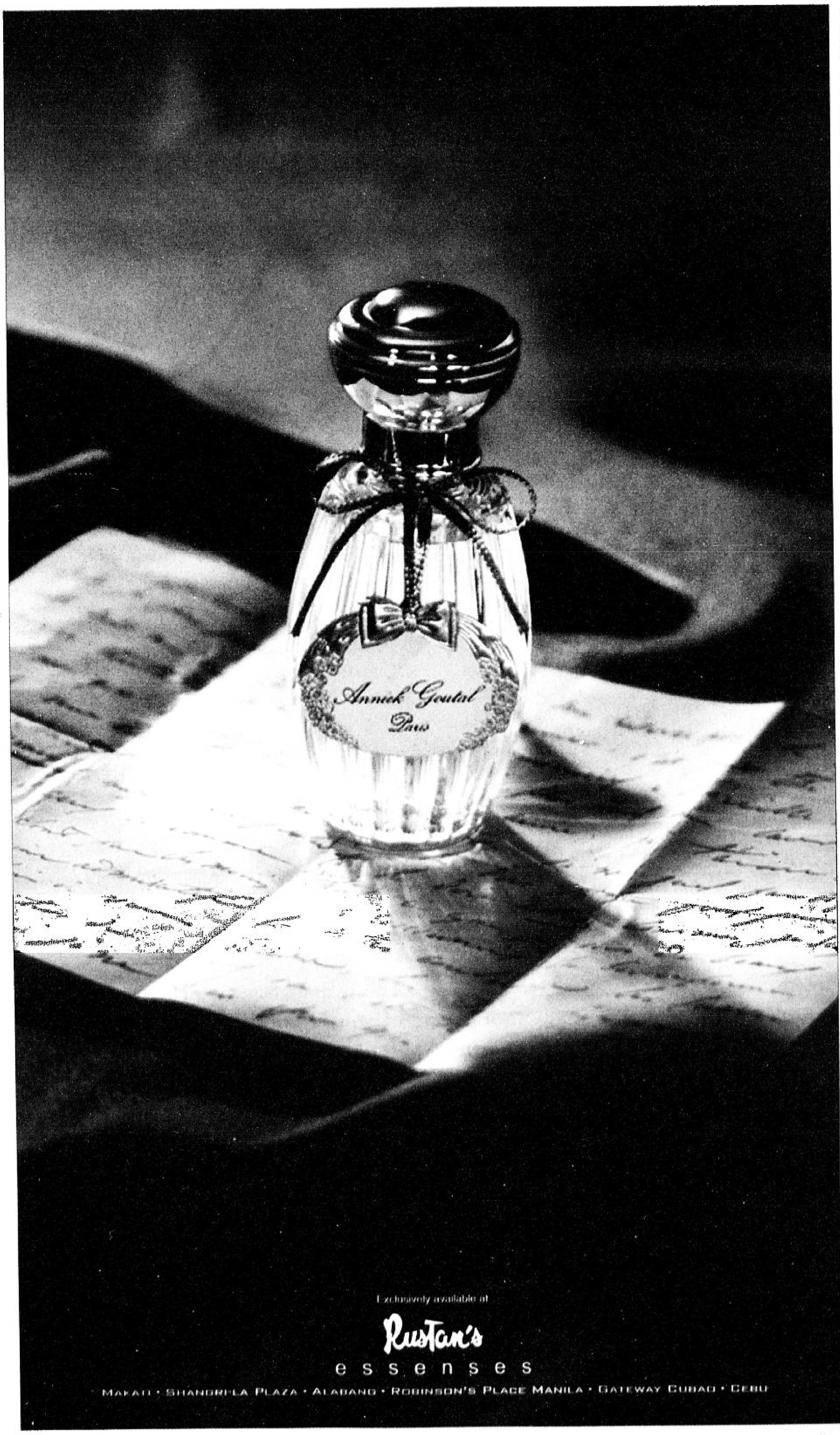
The third and vital part of the treatment is a change in diet. Dr. Murad says, "While diet is only one part of my three-step program, it is critical. To encourage healthy, hydrated cells and connective tissue, I recommend foods such as soy, tofu, cauliflower, spinach, oranges and tomatoes. They have lecithin which strengthens skin and makes it harder for cellulite to show through."

Other recommended foods include cold-water fish, nuts, olive oil and canola oil, which are rich in essential fatty acids; poultry, fish, cheese, eggs and soy that have amino acids to pump up collagen formation; and brightly colored fruits and vegetables and green tea which are packed with antioxidants that help stave off connective tissue damage.

During the span of the program, Dr. Murad recommends less intake of butter, margarine and partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, red meat, pork, heavily processed and high-fat cheese and sugary snacks like candies, cookies and cake.

This Youth-Building Cellulite Diet will have other positive effects on the body as well. It will increase longevity, reduce disease, increase energy, improve wrinkles, increase elasticity and improve overall health.

Murad Firm and Tone Dietary Supplement Pack for Cellulite and Stretch Mark Management and Murad's Firm and Tone Serum for Cellulite and Stretch Mark Management are available at Rustan's Essenses in Makati, Alabang, Shangri La Mall, Robinson's Place and Cebu. For every purchase of both the Dietary Supplement Pack and the Firm and Tone Serum, get a free copy of Dr. Murad's The Cellulite Solution (worth P2,500.)



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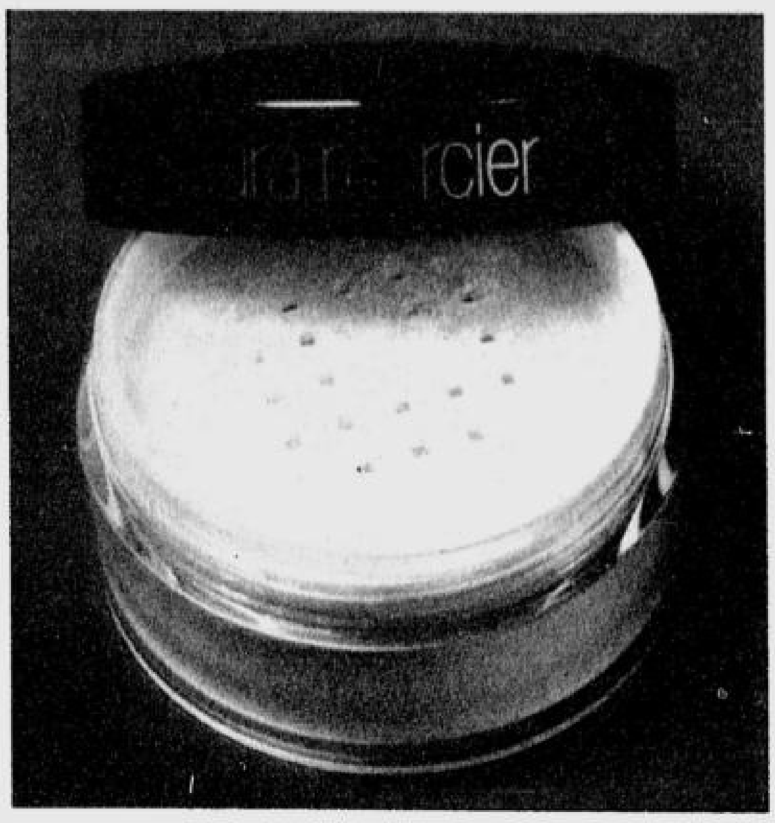
FROM far left: Sarah Jessica Parker uses Rose Glace Lip Glace; Julia Roberts's favorite, Black Smoke Eye Colour; "M" Lip Colour, made especially for Madonna (P895 each)



STAR Dust Loose Powder (P1,750)

Flawless as ever

Laura Mercier takes lessons from her painter's past to execute makeup masterpieces for the stars

Text by Nastasha Isobel B. Verayo
Photos by Romy Homillada

WHEN PEOPLE THINK OF Laura Mercier, they think of her trademark and specialty, the "Flawless Face." According to this famous technique developed by the painter-turned-makeup artist, the face must first be clean and "flawless" before color is applied. Just like a canvas.

Mercier's background as an artist enabled her to improve on longstanding application methods and produce her own line of make-up, the most popular of which is the Flawless Face line. She has likewise designed and manufactured makeup paraphernalia and even skincare products under the Gurwitch Company. Her 15 years in the business of painting the faces of models and celebrities is a testimony to the efficacy of her approach.

Known for its subtle colors and creating natural look, Laura Mercier never fails to form a following in the countries in which it is available.

Those who try it are immediately converted, said Ana Constantino, brand manager for Laura Mercier.

And skin color is never an issue because of the skin's yellow-pigment base. Any skin color possesses the yellow pigment, Constantino explained. Even the British, who have a more pinkish complexion, have a little bit of yellow.

And so, there's always a Laura Mercier to suit women of all skintones.

Hollywood faces

Laura Mercier has made converts of not a few of the most prominent "flawless" faces in Hollywood.

"Sex and the City's" Sarah Jessica Parker loves the Secret Camouflage because "it covers blemishes, it blends and it doesn't look like you're wearing anything." Secret Camouflage is basically a concealer designed to even out skintones and hide dark circles around the eyes. Each compact contains two shades —one to match the skin's undertones and another to match the skin's color—which could either be applied separately or blended together for optimum results.

Parker also uses Rose Glace Lip Glace to add extra shine and lush to lips.

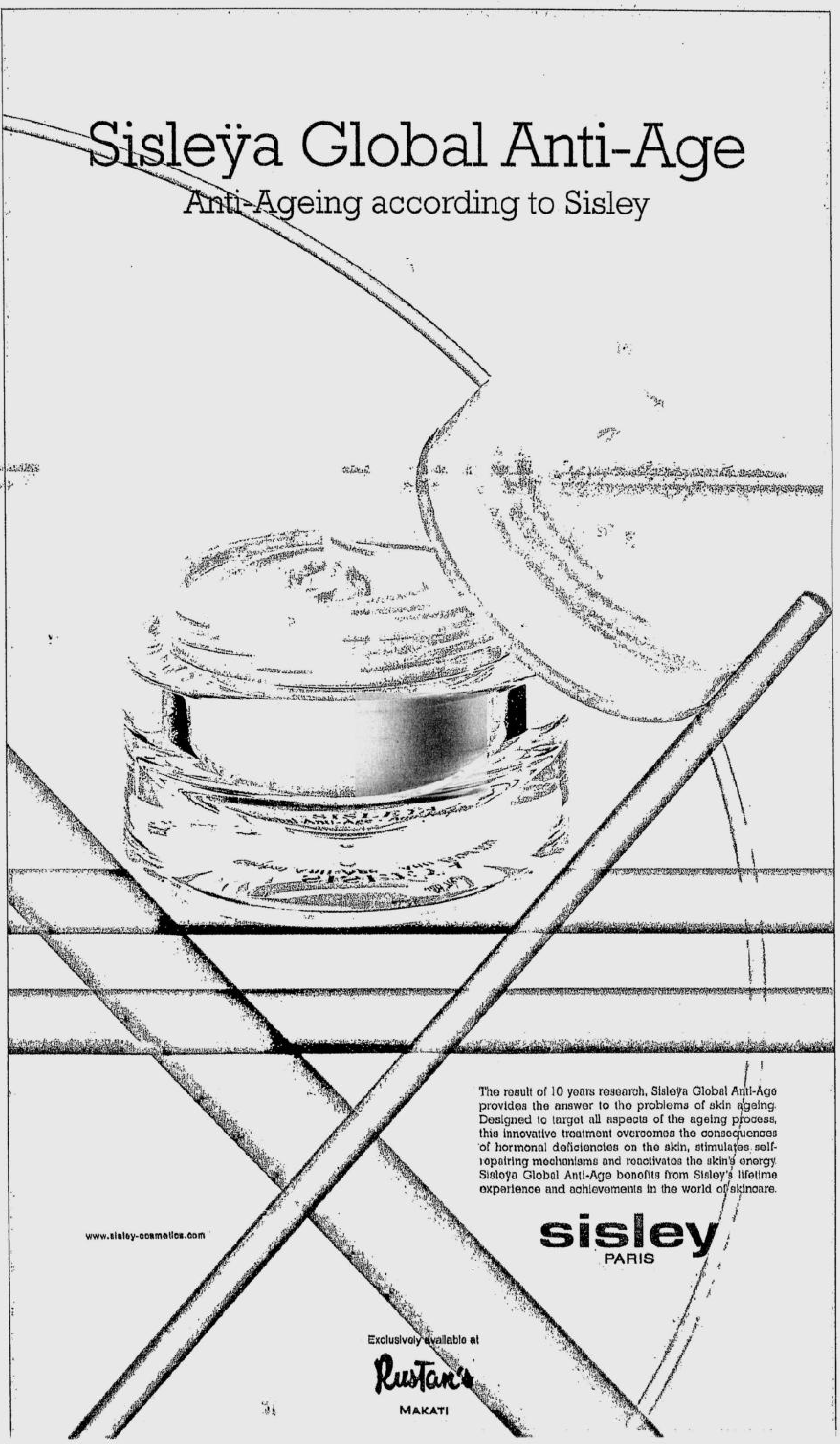
Star Dust Loose Setting Powder gives Catherine Zeta-Jones a healthy radiance, be it day or night. It helps keep makeup on longer while enhancing the skin's natural glow.

Fond of the Brunette Eyebrow Pencil is Angelina Jolie, known for her cover-perfect arch. Jolie also uses Black Extreme Eye Pencil, Stick Foundation in Golden Beige and Foundation Primer, which is fashioned to reflect light, creating a smooth invisible layer on the

FLAWLESS/7

allure
FASHION 101
LOOK SEXY
Traffic Stopper
CATHERINE ZETA-JONES GETS HER BODY BACK

CATHERINE Zeta-Jones used Laura Mercier products for this cover photo.


Sisleÿa Global Anti-Age
Anti-Ageing according to Sisley

The result of 10 years research, Sisleya Global Anti-Age provides the answer to the problems of skin ageing. Designed to target all aspects of the ageing process, this innovative treatment overcomes the consequences of hormonal deficiencies on the skin, stimulates self-repairing mechanisms and reactivates the skin's energy. Sisleya Global Anti-Age benefits from Sisley's lifetime experience and achievements in the world of skincare.

www.sisley-cosmetics.com

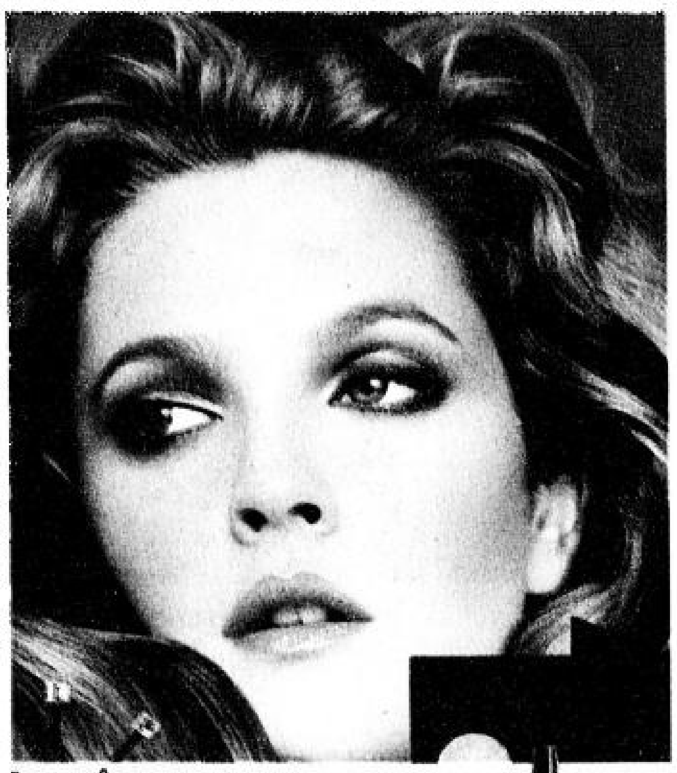
sisley
PARIS

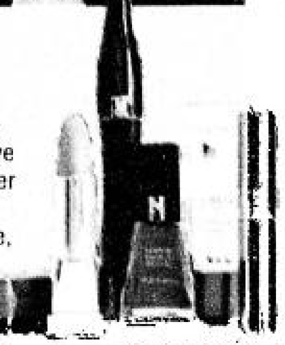
Exclusively available at
Rustan's
MAKATI

Shu Uemura

The look: Irresistible, decadent glamour

The tools: Five eyeshadow duos in Feathers Rhapsody, Purple Masquerade, Midnight Air, Gold Silk and Silver Silhouette, Glow On in P Peach 48 and Glow On in P Amber 87B, Lollishine Rouge 140, Rouge 4 Balance 908, Sweet Lip Gloss Strawberry, Luster Gel, Crystal Set, Masquerade Feather Lashes, 24K Eyelash Curler and Nickel Black Eyelash Curler from Shu Uemura's Masquerade Collection.





Lancôme

The look: Mysterious, romantic beauty

The tools: Products from Lancome's Fall-Winter 2005 Collection named Rose Mystere - Color ID 03, Le Carnet de Velours Eye and Cheek Palette in 01 Vanity, Cils Booster XL mascara base, Hypnose Waterproof Mascara 01 Black, Blush Subtil in 03 Rose, Le Rouge Absolu in 382 Rose Satin, Star Gloss 227 Secret de Vermeil and Juicy Tubes in 60 Exquise Illusion

T. Le Clerc

The look: Mischievous, acid, pink and fun

The tools: Orchidee or loose powder, Orchidee or pressed powder, Multipurpose Colours in Voile Nacre and Pretty Pink, Transparent Lipstick in Soie and Dentelle, Lip Gloss in Pink Delice, Sweet Pink and Pinky, Glitter Pencil in Pink Paradise and Pinkedelic, Nail Enamel in Pink Pop and Pink Glam and Eyeliner in Jolie Pink and Pinkorama.

Color your w

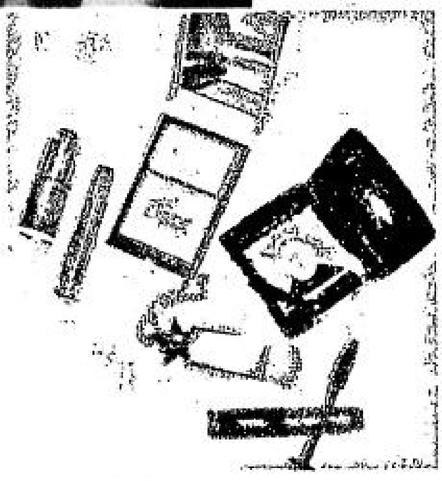
Rustan's Essenses' Cirque! celebrates the vibrant world of cosmetics and toiletries this whole month

By Pam Pastor

THIS SEASON, IT'S ALL A
color.

Color, color, color and more color.

Rustan's Essenses celebrates th
world of cosmetics and toiletries th



Dior

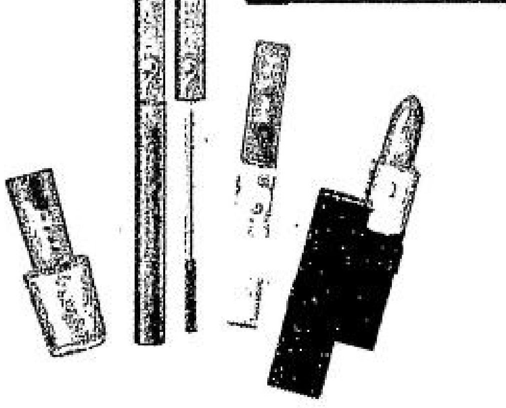
The look: Luminous, sparkling Hollywood glam

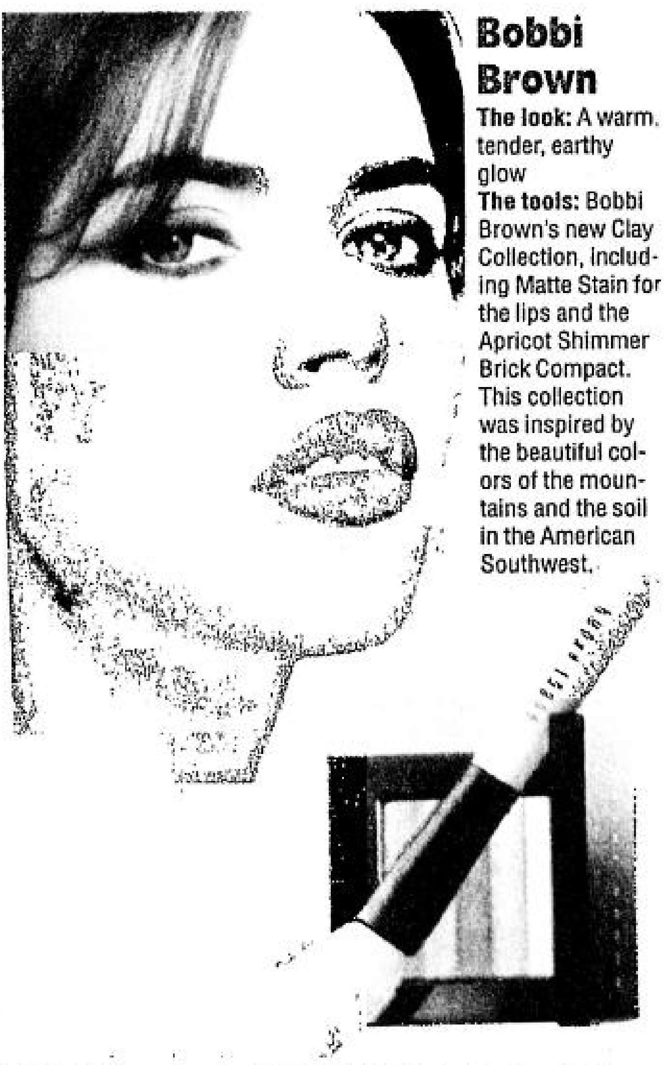
The tools: There are two Autumn 2005 Looks for Dior. The Soft Fantasy harmony uses DiorGlam in Limited Edition Iridescent Satin (Nº001), Style Liner in Black (Nº094), 5 Colours in Limited Edition Romantic Chic (Nº330), 1 Colour Eyeshadow in Limited Edition Silver (Nº058), Diorshow Mascara in Limited Edition Kaki (Nº478), Dior Addict Lipstick in Limited Editions Fire Brick (Nº549) and Divinely Pink (Nº574), Dior Addict Ultra-Gloss in Limited Edition A Shot of Cappuccino (Nº433) and Dior Addict Nail Enamel in Limited Edition Divinely Pink (Nº680). The Sweet Temptation harmony uses DiorGlam in Limited Edition Pearl Shimmer (Nº002), Style Liner in Black (Nº094), 5 Colours in Limited Edition Rose Spirit (Nº980), 1 Colour Eyeshadow in Limited Edition Bronze (Nº738), Dior Addict Lipstick in Limited Editions Mystic Mauve (Nº499) and Pink Variation (Nº269), Dior Addict Ultra-Gloss in Limited Edition A Scoop of Sherbet (Nº473), Dior Contour in Mystic Mauve (Nº363) and Dior Addict Nail Enamel in Limited Edition Pink Variation (Nº680).

Awake

The look: Vibrant colors with a shimmering finish

The tools: Selections Awake's Stardom Extreme Dazzle collection—Awake Roll Curl Mascara, Awake Lip Lift, Awake Volumizing Lip Gloss; products from Awake's 10th Anniversary Limited Collection—Awake Jewel Dazzle Eye Color Collection in Diamond, Star Ruby and Black Pearl and Awake Jewel Dazzle Face Color Collection in Platinum and Gold.





Bobbi Brown

The look: A warm, tender, earthy glow

The tools: Bobbi Brown's new Clay Collection, including Matte Stain for the lips and the Apricot Shimmer Brick Compact. This collection was inspired by the beautiful colors of the mountains and the soil in the American Southwest.

The color of your scent

The fragrance you splash on does more than just make you

BLUES

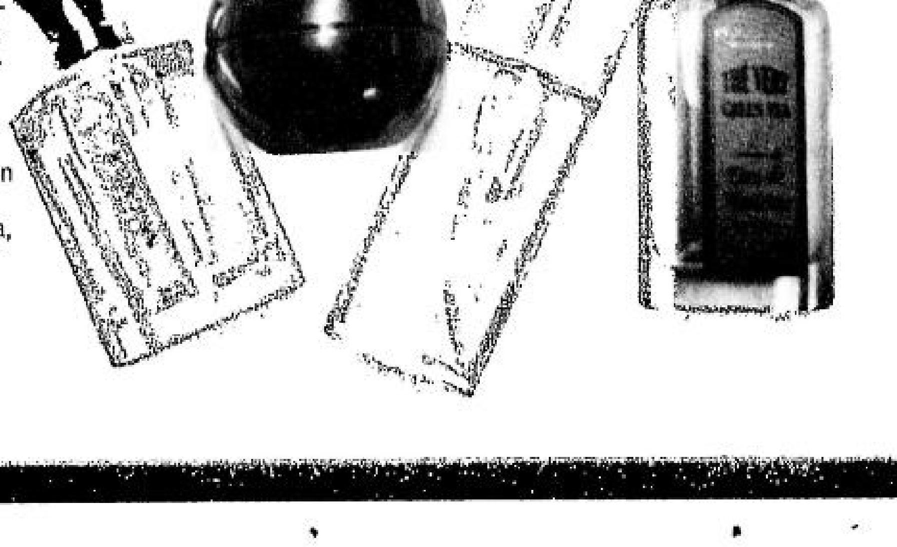
Blue scents are cool, clean, crisp and modern. Think open water, think fresh air. Both casual and elegant, they are perfect for the active urban lifestyle.

Hot picks: Polo Blue by Ralph Lauren, Thierry Mugler, Givenchy Pour Homme Blue Label, Dunhill Fresh

GREENS

Green scents are fresh and natural. They refresh, invigorate and revitalize. They excite the senses, awaken the spirit and provide an energy boost.

Hot picks: Elizabeth Arden Green Tea, Boss in Motion Green Limited Edition II, L'Occitane Green Tea, L'Artisan Parfumeur



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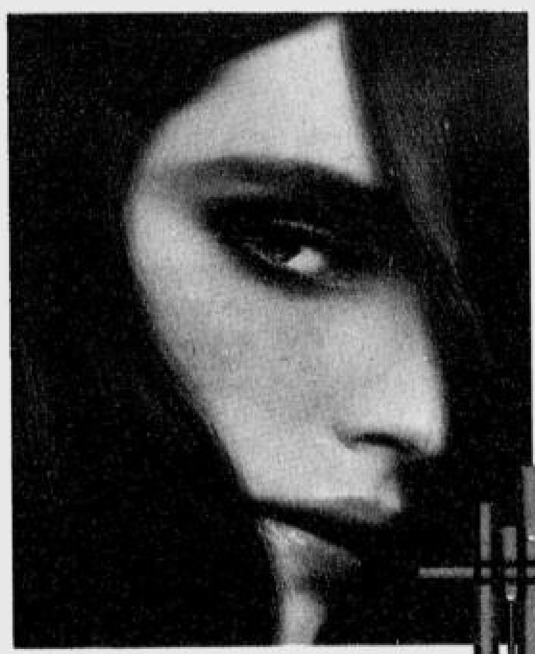
Estée Lauder

The look: Unforgettable expressive eyes
The tools: Estee Lauder's Graphic Color Eyeshadow Quad—eight mood compacts featuring a monochromatic trio of shades and a surprise pop shade for added dráma. The Graphic Color Eyeshadow Quad comes in Ravishing Auburn, Intoxicating Blue, Charming Pink, Tempting Mauve, Lovely Grey, Enigmatic Khaki, Chic Plum and Urban Metals.



Clarins

The look: Rich, joyful, electric radiant color
The tools: Instant Light Perfecting Touch, Wonder Volume Mascara in Wonder Violet 03, True Radiance Foundation, Color Quartet for Eyes in Copper Shimmer 04, Eye Shimmer Pencil in Turquoise Flash 04, Deep Shimmer Intense Eye Colour in Groovy Green 25, Vibrant Violet 26 Blazing Brown 27 and Urban Grey 28 and Colour Gloss in Orange Sparkle 09 and Pink Sparkle 08—all from Clarins' Good Vibrations collection.

Clinique

The look: Refined luxury
The tools: Clinique Colour Fall 2005's new Colour Surge Eye Shadow Quad in Plum Seduction, Limited Edition Kohl Shaper for Eyes in Black Amethyst and Blackened Teal, New Blushing Blush Powder Blush in Iced Lotus (Limited Edition) and Smoldering Plum, Colour Surge Eye Shadow Super Shimmer in Limited Edition Charcoal and Peacock, High Impact Mascara in Limited Edition Sultry Plum, Cartridge Pencil for Eyes in Jet Black and Charcoal Brown, Color Surge Impossibly Glossy in Beach Bunny, Crushed Opal and Limited Edition Loveable Plum, Color Surge Bare Brilliance Lipstick in Plumsicle and Waterviolet.

orld

BOUT

vibrant
is month

with Cirque! All Rustan's Cosmetics Departments will sport a different theme each week of October—Mardi Gras, Fairy, Metallic and '80s. On Oct. 6, Rustan's will hold the C&T Color Festival. Fifteen makeup brands will have a cosmetics show featuring the fall looks of 2005.

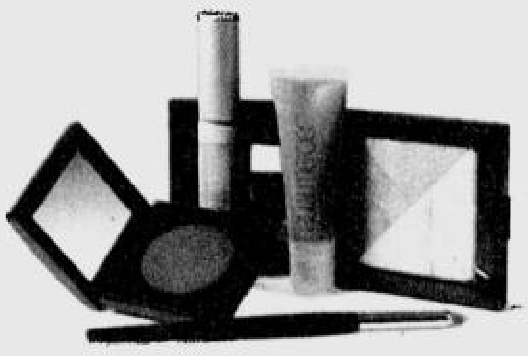
Here's a preview of fall's hot shades from the world's top makeup brands.

Chanel

The look: Sophisticated, modern orient
The tools: Chanel's Coromandels Collection, inspired by the famous Chinese lacquered screens which were Coco Chanel's objects of passion. The collection includes new shades Lacquered Red, Copper, Gold, Tea Rose and Frosted Beige; a new limited edition version of Poudre Universelle Compacte created by Heidi Morawetz and Dominique Moncourtois called Poudre Coromandel; and Irreelle Duo for the eyes.

Laura Mercier

The look: Desirable and dreamy
The tools: Bitten Lip Glosses in Baby Lips, Subtle Lips, Tender Lips, Nude Lips and Healthy Lips, Caviar Eye Liners in Indigo and Black, Smoky Eye Liner Brush and Basic Colours in Basic Caramel, Basic Peach, Basic Chocolate and Basic Pink from Laura Mercier's new fall collection "Just Kissed."

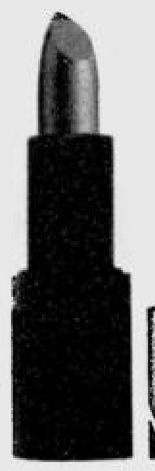


MAC

The look: Exotic, intense and sensual
The tools: MAC Lipstick in Romanced, Tassie Bright, Satiate Bronze, Hipster and Overly Plum and MAC Lipglass in Adventurous, Jewelbright, Luxuriate and C-Thru from MAC's Ornamentalism collection.

NARS

The look: Understated edge
The tools: Blade Runner Duo Eyeshadow, Persepolis Duo Eyeshadow, Surabaya Duo Eyeshadow, Strada Single Eyeshadow, Savage Cream Eyeshadow, Swing Cream Eyeshadow, Manon Eyeliner Pencil, First Bite Lipstick, Diablo Lip Lacquer and Positano Lip Gloss from NARS Fall 2005



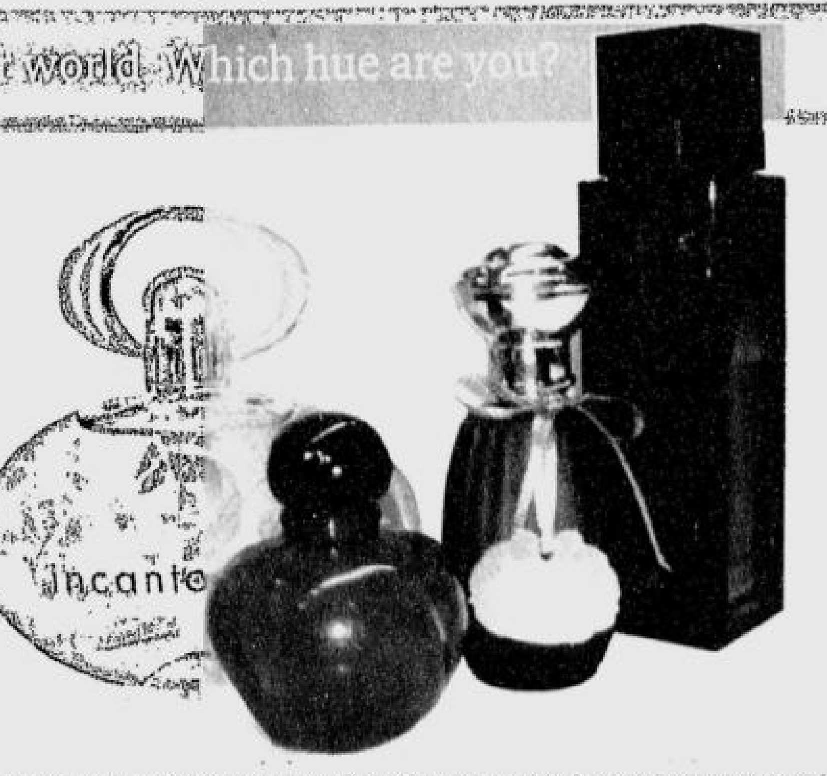
mell good—it can uplift you and affect your mood, it can bring color to your world. Which hue are you?

YELLOWS

Yellow scents are radiant and warm. They're bold, strong, elegant, sensuous and intense.
Hot picks: Chanel No. 19, Inno Sotto Mondo's Miro, Marc Jacobs Essence

REDS

Red scents invoke fantasy. They are enchanting, mysterious, vibrant, strong, rich and romantic.
Hot picks: Ferragamo's Incanto Dream, Annick Goutal's Mandragore, Escada Sentiment



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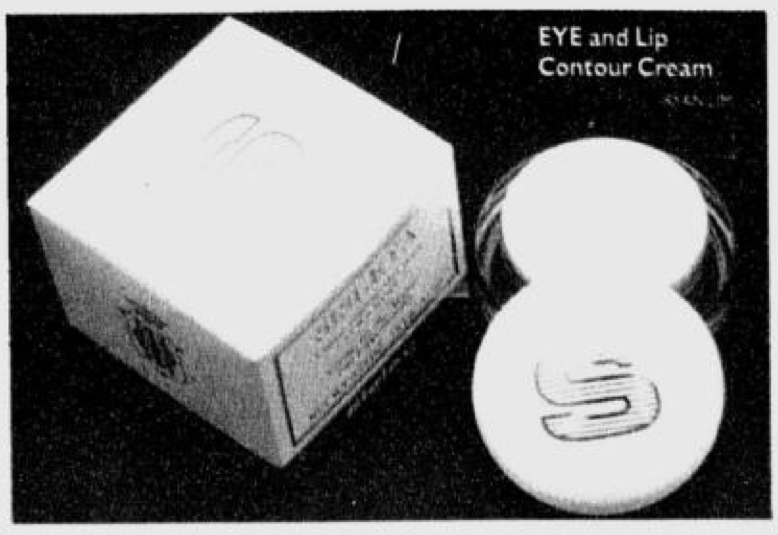
Über-natural cosmetics and skincare line

Sisley picks the best extracts from the best plants

By Ruth L. Navarra


EYE and Lip Contour Cream

GLOBAL Anti-Age for dry skin

NITPICKING YIELDS RESULTS.

The d'Ornano family of France could attest to this as they have created and distributed one of the most prestigious brands in cosmetics and perfumes—Sisley.

All Sisley products are made with natural plant extracts and essential oils. But the secret behind the success of the brand is that all the ingredients are sourced from the country offering the best plant.

But the process does not stop there. They determine the perfect timing of harvesting a plant so that they get it when it has produced the superior active agents. Even then, not all parts of the plant are good enough to end up in a bottle.

After the extraction, they make sure that the plant's purity is maintained and controlled, which is why a Sisley product has no overpowering scent. This process of extracting plant extracts to beauty product is known as phtyocosmetology.

Extreme measures of quality control? Most likely.

But that is how Count Hubert d'Ornano and his countess, Isabelle, want it since they established the company in 1976. The couple has instructed their researchers to pay no attention to time or cost when they are developing possible products.

The d'Ornanos have also resisted commercialism as Sisley has remained a family business up to now. Isabelle is the vice chair of the board, responsible for communication and creative development, while son Philippe is the executive vice president. Daughter Christine is in charge of the British subsidiary and is also the image model of Sisley.

"[Sisley has remained a family business] so they could keep an eye on the quality of their products," said Mariel A. Joaquin, division manager-Prestige, of Rustan's.

Global Anti-Age

Such passion for detail can be assured in all of the products, including the Global Anti-Age for dry skin.

"This cream claims to reduce wrinkles by 20 percent in a month," said Joaquin. "This is best used on cold months. In our country, it's the months starting with 'ber.' Our skin has a higher tendency to dry then."

For the rest of the month, one could revert to the Global Anti-Age. Since it is plant-based, it is non-irritant and meant for all skin types. A 50-ml bottle costs P16,000, but it beats going under the knife to have younger skin. Plus, each bottle could last to up to six months. The whole range includes Eye and Lip Contour cream (P6,800) and Sisleÿa-Elixir.

"The reason why it's named 'global' is because you do not need a separate cream for night and day," said Joaquin. "The same goes for Eye and Lip contour. Sisley has come up with a product specifically for the skin around the eyes and lips because they're extra sensitive."

"It is a common assumption that only women in their late 30s should use anti-age creams," said Sisley's beauty consultant Heidi Basco. "When, in fact, even those on their early 20s should have them in their daily regimen as part of their prevention routine."

While Sisleÿa-Elixir is an intensive program for all skin types to achieve a younger-looking, firmer, more luminous, rested, hydrated skin. This program is good for four weeks, and should be done twice a year. A set of four vials will cost P18,900. Each vial is good for seven days.

Sisley has a consultation booth on the second floor of Rustan's Cosmetics and Toiletries division.

Sisley is exclusively distributed in Rustan's Essenses.

CHRISTINE d'Ornano models for the family-owned brand, Sisley.

The Flawless Face

laura mercier

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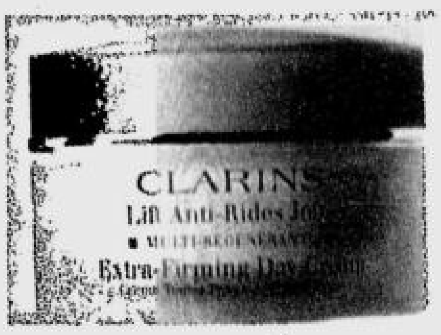
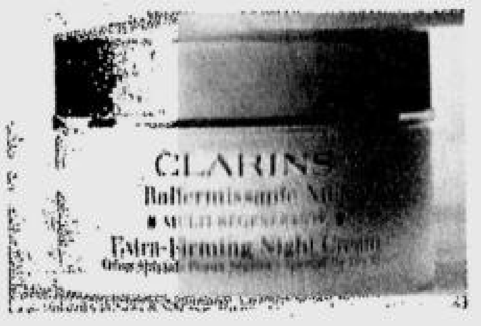
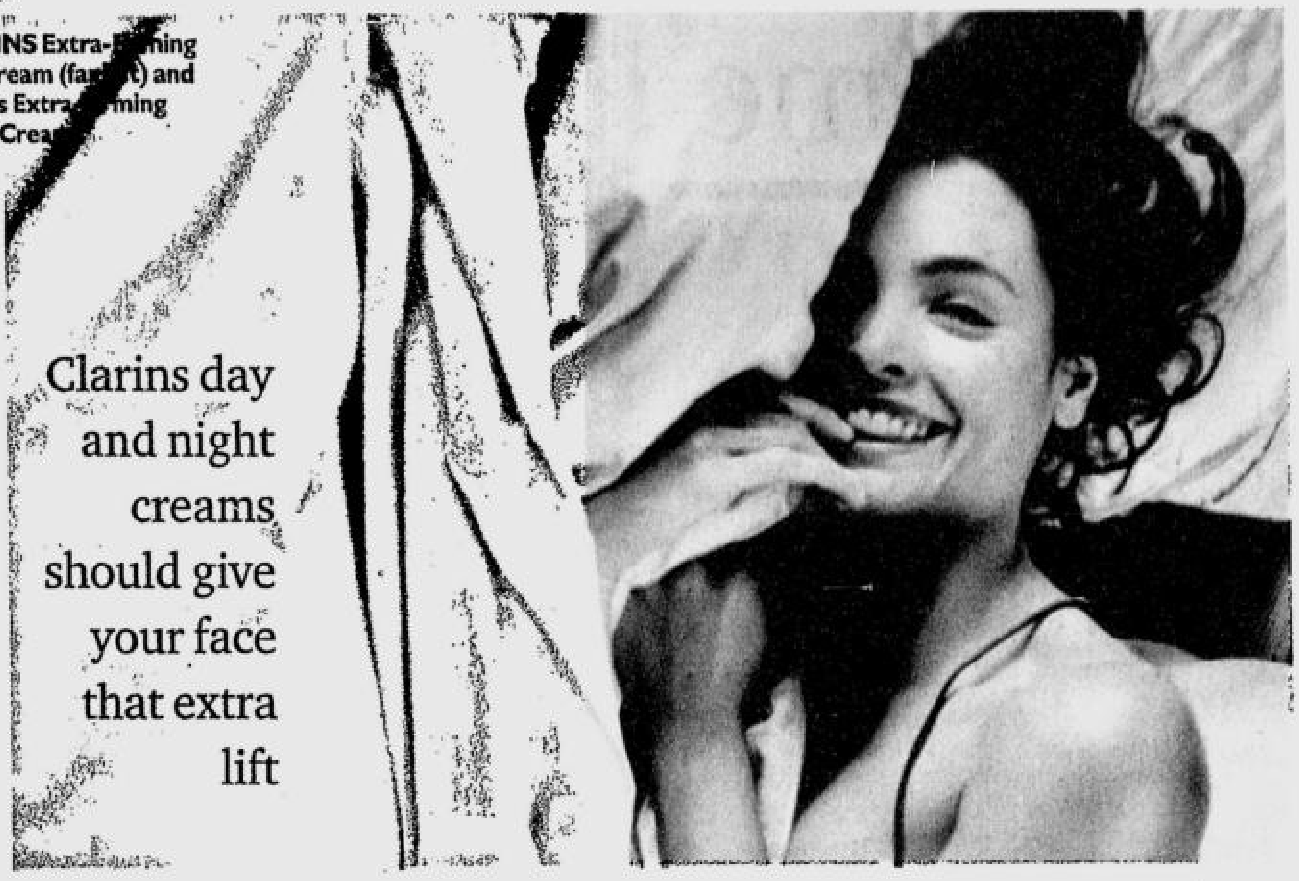




CLARINS Extra-[illegible]ming Day Cream (fa[illegible]t) and Clarins Extra-[illegible]ming Night Cre[illegible]



Clarins day and night creams should give your face that extra lift

The beauty of aging

By Lora Gahol

YOU ARE LOOKING AT A BEAUTIFUL woman in her 40s.

Before you raise a skeptical brow and assume she is a product of hours of airbrushing, or worse, countless cosmetic procedures, let me ask you: What makes it impossible for a woman who has lived four decades (or more) to look like that? Or, perhaps more appropriately: What makes it possible?

For 25-year-olds obsessing about how they would look like when they turn 40, there's Clarins. It answers what most women dread about 40: not what product to use to check aging, but how that product is going to work on the skin.

Clarins believes that to guard your skin, two important steps are necessary: protect and repair.

Clarins Extra-Firming Day Cream provides those. The day treatment works through five actions: lift and smooth fine lines with soft wheat proteins; renew and defend skin with a special Vitamin E and tetrapeptide mix called Stimulen R. Energizing with Euglena extract and hops; moisturize with Glycerine; and protect from pollution with a blend of anti-oxidants, white tea, succory, dock-cress, and glycofilm.

Upon application, you are bound to feel your complexion "wake up." The texture is smooth and rich, yet comfortable. There's a slight tingly sensation that instantly perks you up. With its luxe fragrance, you might actually think you've reached for your night cream by mistake. But once it settles and is absorbed by your skin and leaves it without a trace of greasiness, you know you got the right stuff.

Follow up with a makeup base or foundation with SPF.

Those with extra-dry complexions may use the nourishing formula especially for dry skin.

Night treatment

Before bedtime, apply Clarins Extra-Firming Night Cream. Your skin needs extra-intensive action to undo the stress of the day. Since de-stressing takes work, Clarins has put in only the best to create your best evening cocktail: Rosemary to soothe; GlistinR to renew; Alfalfa to repair and firm; Glycerine and triglycerides to moisturize; and Brown Algae and Vitamin E to reverse the effects of the day's free radicals.

The protein-rich night cream works double-time to repair your skin while you sleep, and prepares your complexion to battle the many skin threats in the day to follow.

Using clean fingertips, gently spread the cream upwards, massaging lightly, as you take in the vanilla-based fragrance that will lull you to slumber. The scent is reminiscent of our fondest cookies-and-milk childhood, which even the most discriminating husband would surely love to smell.

Clarins Extra-Firming Night Cream is your best potion for sweet dreams and an even more beautiful tomorrow.

With the right arsenal of products for our precious faces, our perspective about growing old may change. We are not made beautiful by our age; we make every age most beautiful.

And with the help of Clarins, perhaps life does begin at 40.

Clarins is available at Rustan's Makati and Shangri-La Tower.

E-mail the author at lora_gahol@yahoo.com or lgahol@pldtvibe.net

Flawless as ever

From page 3

skin. The Primer, so light you hardly feel it, creates a barrier between the skin and the foundation, protecting the skin and maintaining freshness all day.

For Cameron Diaz's smooth and shine-free skin, Laura Mercier Setting Powder in Translucent does the trick. It prolongs makeup wear without being cakey.

Laura created "M" Lip Colour specifically for her friend, Madonna. She was also responsible for the pop icon's unforgettable classy and elegant look in "Evita."

Perhaps the most vocal fan of the makeup brand is Oprah Winfrey who "can't live without" Laura Mercier Foundation. She even had Laura as part of the panel advisers for one of her show's amazing makeovers.

Another Laura Mercier advocate is Julia Roberts, who wears Black Smoke Eye Colour and Tinted Moisturizer.

Black Smoke Eye Colour is formulated with Cashmere Talc for a silky, luxurious feel and even glide. Tinted Moisturizer with SPF 20 not only hydrates the skin but also protects it from the sun's harmful rays. And because it is tinted, it leaves a faint color on the skin even without wearing makeup.

Laura Mercier is available exclusively at Rustan's Essenses.

Skincare by L'OCCITANE
A True Beauty.

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A L'HUILE ESSENTIELLE D'IMMORTELLE BIOLOGIQUE
PRECIOUS CREAM
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This time it's personal

PASSION, Goutal's own personal perfume RYAN LIM

Empowering women through the senses is the real story behind Annick Goutal

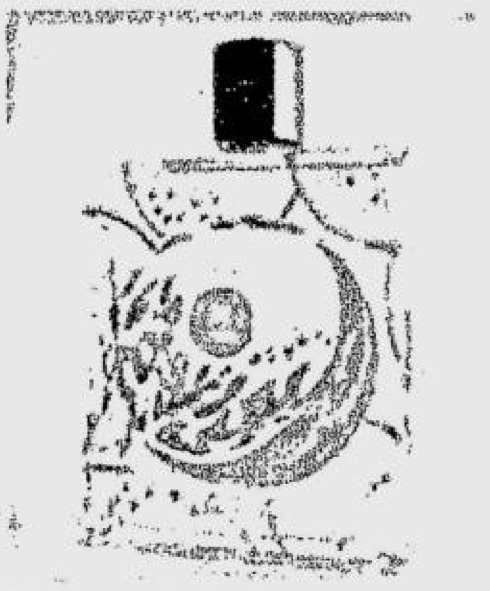
By Ruth L. Navarra

TO BE A WOMAN IS TO wield power—the power to nurture and provide, to tease and control, and so much more.

Perfumer Annick Goutal understands that power as she herself embodies them. Her entry into the limelight began as prize-winning pianist and model. She got married, separated, and gave birth to Camille. She was diagnosed with breast cancer, survived the ordeal, and reunited with her childhood sweetheart. She married him later.

She got into the perfume business when she met perfumer Henri Sorsana in 1977. The following seven years were spent memorizing ingredients and honing her skills.

ANNICK Goutal, creating a fragrance all her own



LIMITED-edition hand-painted squared bottle

When she comes up with a scent, not only does she combine the essences of the ingredients; she also puts in her personal experiences as well. Each perfume is a milestone in Goutal's life, each scent a story.

"Eau de Camille was made by Goutal when her seven-year-old daughter requested that she create a scent for her," said Mariel A. Joaquin, division manager-Prestige, of Rustan's.

The story goes that Camille was up on the terrace, feeling the ivy when she said that wanted a fragrance like that. So Eau de Camille was inspired from honeysuckle and privet tree mingled with freshly cut grass.

For her stepdaughter Charlotte, she created something less naïve. Eau de Charlotte is derived from mimosa and cocoa. For her second husband, cellist Alain Meunier, she created Sables. Her own personal perfume is Passion, one of the first three fragrances she made.

Stand out

Goutal lends her triumph to every woman through her works. She knows that as a woman, you want to stand out. There's simply no point in becoming just a face in the crowd.

"Each Annick Goutal fragrance is unique and original," Joaquin said. "Goutal has no regard for fashion and trends. She follows her instinct and creates her own scent."

Goutal always uses natural and rare essences of the highest standards, Joaquin added.

"Every bottle is special," she said. Each of them is designed with romanticism and sophistication in mind. This is how Goutal's world is characterized and that is how the décor of the bottles are manufactured.

Joaquin said that any woman would appreciate an Annick Goutal creation. A 100ml bottle will cost P3,500 while the a 125ml and a 175ml refill are priced at P3,100 and P3,800, respectively.

Rustan's offers a gift package of perfume and body cream (P4,000-P4,500). But for the perfume bottle collectors and enthusiasts, Rustan's also carries limited edition of hand-painted bottles, ranging from P10,000-P12,000.

For the layering effect, Annick Goutal has a whole range of soaps and body creams to match the perfume. The only problem a woman may face is finding the perfect choice among a wide array of first-rate Goutal fragrances. But even that is part of the fun and learning, isn't it?

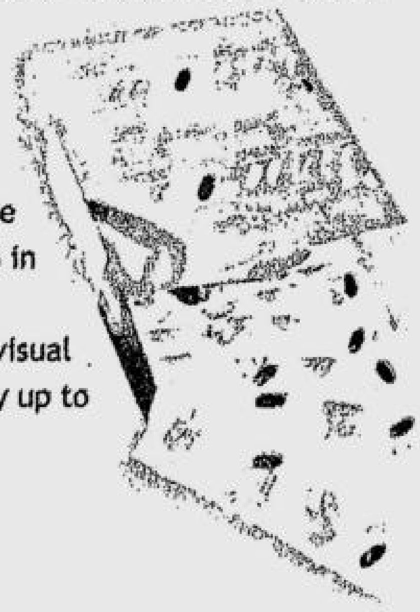
Annick Goutal fragrances are available in Rustan's Essenses.

HEURE Exquise RYAN LIM

the Murad
cellulite solution

finally, a cellulite solution that really works!

the firm & tone dietary supplement pack

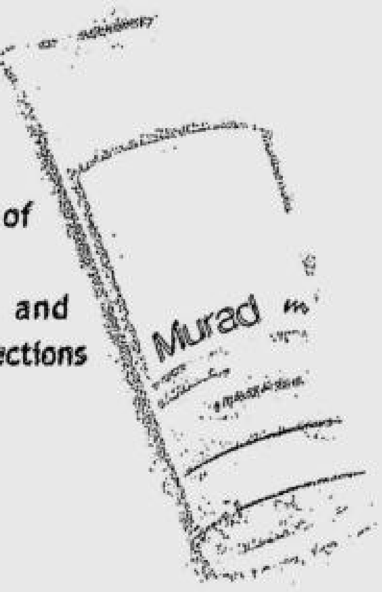


Patented clinically proven complex supports skin strength by:
- Encourages the appearance of firmer skin by up to 78% in eight weeks
- Helping to improve the visual texture of stretch marks by up to 47% in eight weeks

benefits

This Multivitamin and Antioxidant Dietary Supplement promotes healthy skin function and microcirculation to improve skin's smoothness and visual appearance. It contains Essential Fatty Acids to help hydrate the skin with water attracting ingredients. Cell Energizer Dietary Supplements help prevent skin cell damage while promoting cellular energy production. Connective Tissue Dietary Supplement strengthen blood vessels, promote collagen and elastin production to improve skin elasticity and firmness.

the firm & tone serum

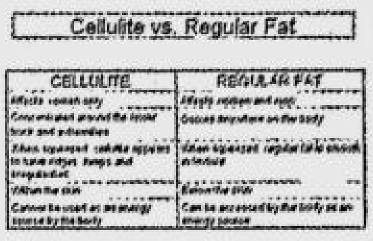


Improves the overall appearance of skin up to 94% by:
- Reducing the appearance of cellulite by up to 77%
- Increasing skin firmness and elasticity while masking imperfections

benefits

This breakthrough serum containing encapsulated liposomes delivers potent active ingredients to skin, to reduce the appearance of cellulite and stretch marks. It has Cayenne Pepper to invigorate circulation within skin. Horse Chestnut Tree Extract and Tiger's Herb restore firmer and smoother skin. Cat's Claw, an extract from the Amazon, reduces the inflammatory appearance of dimpled skin appearance associated with cellulite.

murad facts on cellulite



Cellulite vs. Regular Fat

CELLULITE	REGULAR FAT
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
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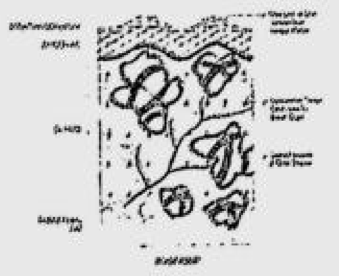
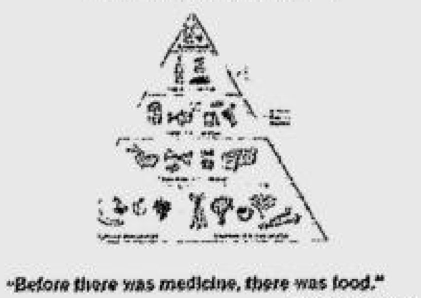
[illegible]	[illegible]

The difference between cellulite and regular fat



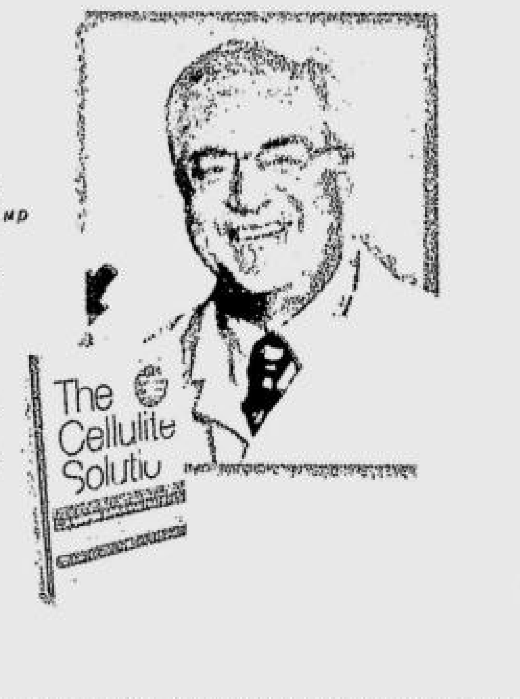
Anatomy of untreated cellulite

The Murad Food Pyramid



"Before there was medicine, there was food." Howard Murad, M.D

Dr. Murad's diet recommendation for better skin



The Firm & Tone Dietary Supplement Pack and the Firm & Tone Serum was developed by world-renowned dermatologist Dr. Howard Murad. It is also part of a complete line of patented, scientifically proven Murad products.

Murad. | m

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2005
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Requirements:
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Interested applicants may submit their CVs to:
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Sta. Cruz, Tagoloan
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NOTICE OF VACANCY

The Asian Institute of Management (AIM) Policy Center is one of the Centers for Research and Management Excellence of the Asian Institute of Management. It is the public policy think tank of the Institute founded on the tenet that a vibrant business sector leads to social and economic progress. The Center is committed towards enhancing the overall competitiveness of the Philippine business environment through public policy reform. In this regard, we would like to invite qualified applicants to fill-in the following positions:

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- Proven team leadership.

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Must be comfortable in dealing with people
Pleasing personality
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Pleasing personality

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- Filipino Citizen.

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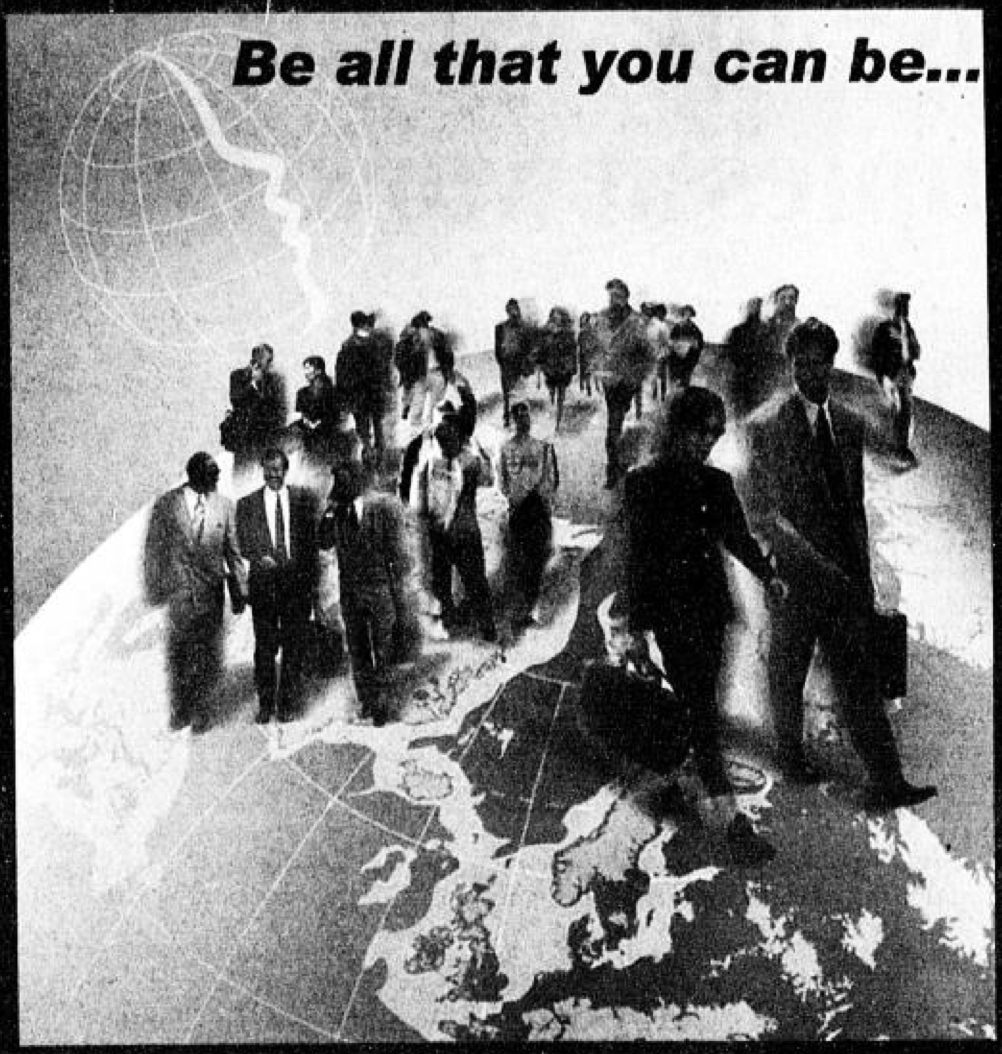
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Must have at least six (6) months - one (1) year supervisory / outbound training experience in a callcenter; must be an extrovert and have energetic personality; ability to multi-task; good time management skills

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PR/ MARKETING STAFF
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- With pleasing personality
- Can work well under pressure

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URL: **www.jpi.com.ph**

Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

E-mail: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph.

Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Text us your feedback: Inquirer paw name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

A formula for successful couples at work

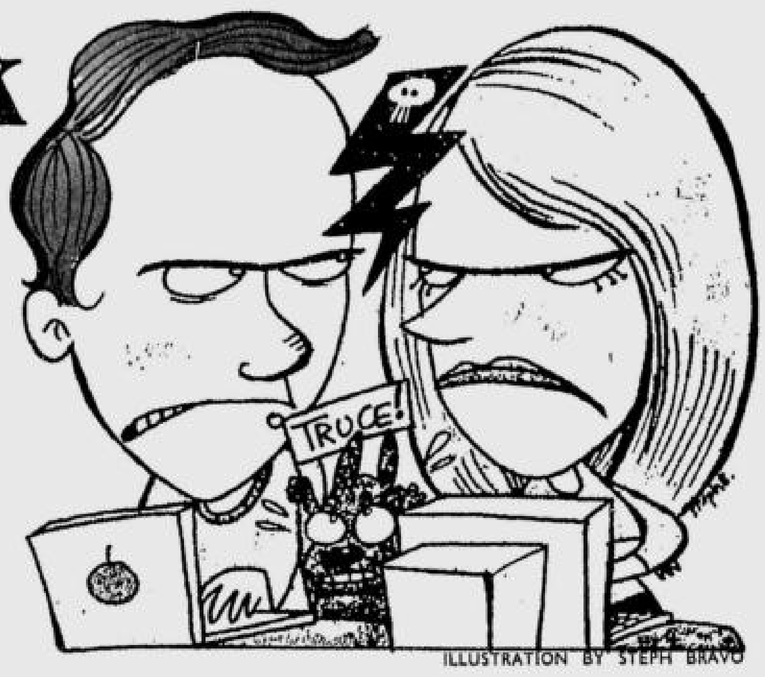


ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

(Continued from Sept. 18)

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

Josie O. Santamaria

WHEN ASKED WHAT MADE made their partnership in love, marriage and business successful all these years, the couples cited in this article were unanimous in their answer: faith in God, faith in one's self, deep love for and commitment to each other, willingness to accept each other's mistakes, patience in waiting for the other spouse to correct them himself or herself, and a strong desire to make their marriage work.

The couples found that a very important tool in strengthening their relationship of mutual trust and respect is communication. Communication between husband and wife should be characterized by openness, honesty and candor. Listening nonjudgmentally, and looking at the situation from the viewpoint of the other person are very important to effective communication in all kinds of relationship, especially that of husband and wife.

Even though wives like Marissa Romano, Jeanne Menguito, Bella Ramirez, Malou Darvin and myself started our respective companies, we give importance to the roles and contributions of our husbands. Our businesses have grown and prospered, even by leaps and bounds, because of our husbands' expertise and talents in areas where we find themselves inadequate and wanting.

Guide for couples

In my book, "Managing Work and Career," I listed the following tips to couples. who plan to start their own business or are running one:

Be sure you are in a business, maybe selling products or providing service, which both of you believe in, are enthused about, and can do together. This business must fully utilize your skills and experiences. If one has the technical expertise, the other has the skills needed to provide support. Don't go into business using the skills of a third party whom you will hire. Many businesses have failed because when the third party leaves, they carry with them the clients and the business of the company. Have a shared mission and vision and, from these define the core values that will shape how you will conduct your business. A mission is the purpose why you are in this business. Your vision is what you want the business to be at a defined point in the future, and why you want it there. Having a vision will give you focus and direction and motivate you together.

Plan together. Set goals and objectives and agree on priorities and action plans together. This will unite you and make you move along the same direction.

Openness is very important in both marital and business relationships. If you disagree with your spouse, voice it out and deal with it face to face but not in front of others. Silence or cold treatment is more deadly. It leads to resentment and anger that can build up. When discussing differences, exert effort to remain calm and cool. Take a deep breath, drink water or leave for a while, to help steady frayed nerves.

Delineate roles

Clearly delineate your responsibilities and agree on the roles and accountability of each one. Give each other total responsibility in your respective areas of expertise. Then trust that your spouse is performing his or her role competently and well. This promotes professionalism in the business relationship. Practice mutual empowerment.

Acknowledge the area of competence of your spouse in his or her area of expertise. Let him or her shine. Don't compete for the limelight. Perhaps one spouse is the financial person, both in education and experience, and a genius in business. The other is people-oriented, creative and a dynamic person. Give affirmation and recognition to your spouse before your staff, to your clients and suppliers and to your family.

Enteng Romano pointed out that Marissa always allowed him to take the limelight and to shine in high-profile events. Marissa was content to be in the background, happy for and proud of Enteng.

While Jeanne Menguito had started and grown their food and real estate businesses, she is quick to acknowledge that it was Dom's dollar earnings as an overseas worker that provided the capital for their businesses. Dom is quick to acknowledge Jeanne's optimism, her rapport with people, her business development acumen and marketing expertise that led to the success of their businesses.

Importance of respect

Respect each other. Love can't make up for a lack of mutual respect. Respect your spouse's opinions, judgments and decisions. Respect is shown by attentive listening and trying to put one's self in the place of the other, by supporting the decision the spouse made even if you don't agree with it. Never criticize your spouse in front of your staff or your client or supplier, or your children. This is treachery. Never criticize your spouse's decision nor overrule it. Bring up your disagreements in private, then let your spouse change the decision he or she has made.

Respect individual differences and use them to create synergy or 1 + 1 = 3. This is mathematically improbable but psychologically possible. When we open up to each other, and let our ideas flow, each one takes turns to build on these ideas and create a multiplier effect. What one cannot see the other does. Allow your spouse to work at his or her own pace, to use his or her own inner resources and pursue his or her unique interests and preferences.

Jeanne Menguito admits that her business instincts enable her to take calculated risks and make quick decisions. In the past, she had been frustrated at what she perceived to be slowness in Dom's decision-making. But she admits though that while Dom may take more time to make a decision than it takes her to make one, he is also thorough, deliberate and sure of his decision and its consequence. Being the engineer that he is, Dom looks for hard data before making a decision.

One head

I am the dreamer and vi

AFORMULA/P.6★

How do you really get a job?

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

DEAR WW: I'VE GOT A GREAT resumé, I'm really respected in my field and I send out resumés every week, yet I'm having no luck landing a job.

Losing Hope

Your e-mail reminds me of the valedictorian of New Orleans' Alcee Fortier Senior High School. She recently failed the state's mandatory exit exam for the fifth time. Even though she had the best grades of her class, state rules prevent her from graduating until she passes the test.

Sometimes it takes more than just "smarts" to get where you need to go. This applies to a certain valedictorian and it applies to anyone looking for a job. Sometimes, it is as much about our approach to our job hunt as it is about our intelligence and experience. I've listed some keys to a successful job search below. For more check out Harvey Mackay's book "We Got Fired" (Bal lentine, 2004).

Create a routine. Next to the lack of a paycheck, many people say the toughest part of not having a job is losing the 9-5 routine. Getting dressed, going to the workplace, etc. That's why creating your own new routines can be very helpful to get you in the right frame of mind to hunt for a job. And we're not talking about routinely having a beer for breakfast; your routine might involve putting on a tie each morning or contacting someone from your network each day.

Expect drudgery. Jobs sometimes fall from the sky—that's the rare exception. Mostly getting a job requires painstaking and methodical effort on your part. Organizing your contacts, expanding your network, e-mailing and calling certain people over and over until you get through to them, reading the want ads—studies show that this has the highest odds of landing you a job.

Go online. There is more to the Internet than just job boards. You can research the company you are interviewing with. You can also research their competitors. But don't forget the most important thing you need to research—yourself! Many job hunters have been burned by omitting key information from their resumés or applications, only to have their prospective employer easily "uncover the dirt" through a simple web search.

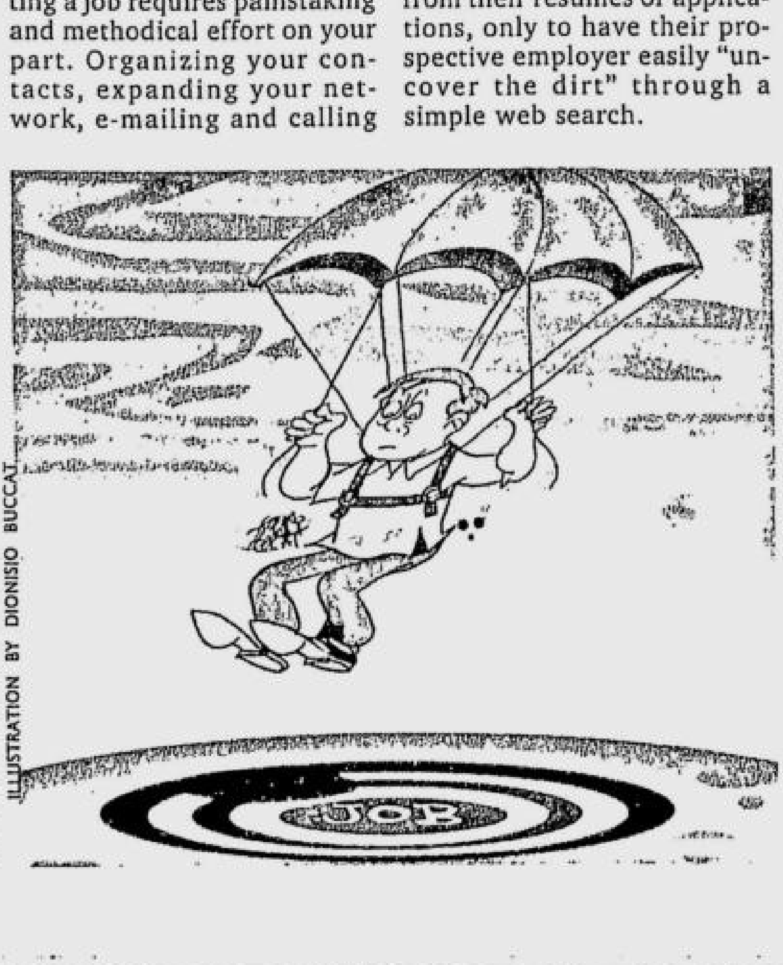


ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Have a contingency plan. It makes sense to put most of your effort into pursuing your dream job. Just don't forget your backup plan. You know the job that you aren't crazy about doing, but that always seems to be hiring.

Keep in touch with your "board of directors." Many people today understand the importance of having a group of people that they rely on for contacts, references, etc. I'm struck, however, by how few jobseekers keep these key people updated on their job search process. The worst thing is to get invested in helping someone and then never hearing how they are doing. Remember to check in with your top advisors on a regular basis.

Use these techniques and you'll pass the test and graduate to that new job.

Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com /ABCnews.com online ballot: How long did your last job search take?

—I never did get a job, 14.4 percent

—I got a job immediately, 15.2 percent

—Less than six months, 33.5 percent

—More than six months, 36.7 percent

(Mr. Rosner, an internationally syndicated columnist, author and speaker, is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)

Productivity in work

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

SOME LAID OFF WORKERS WHOM I HAVE MET SHARED that financial loss of the company was the reason they lost their jobs. A lot of factors, including poor productivity, in turn contributed to the company's financial loss. Usually, a productive worker who contributes to the gain of the company is valued highly by management while those who are inefficient and less fruitful in their work are regarded as liabilities of the company.

Productivity in work and business is generally measured by the quantity of results a worker produces and/ or the amount of profit the business has accrued. Such is the kind of productivity that everyone in the workplace focuses on, so that sometimes, many lose sight of another kind of productivity which is worth considering.

The worker who has faith—who believes that his work is not only a means to earn his food for himself and his family, but that it is a God-given thing, and that by doing it he is doing God's will—will certainly find a deeper meaning of productivity. One who sincerely does his work to the best of his ability, honestly using his time, materials and other resources for work in the performance of his task, could peacefully assure himself that God sees his worth and value even if his employers do not, since they may be looking for a different kind of output of his work.

Putting God in work and business will make everyone see things differently—that workers are persons, not numbers in the equation of investment and profit; that decisions should be considered in the light of Jesus' words and teachings—and a different kind of profit will certainly be gained by all. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg @skyinet.net)

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

A different SSS

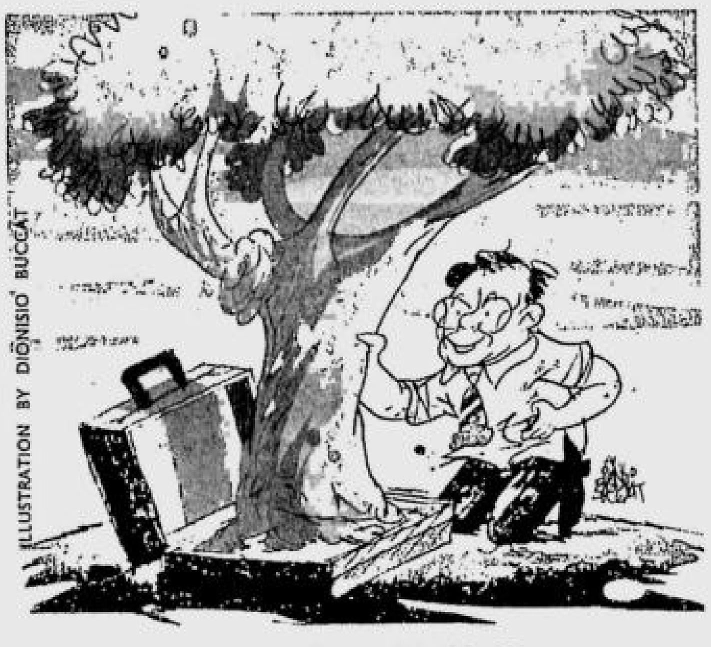
By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

ONE OF THE MAJOR SKILLS THAT WORK TOWARD career success is: recognizing opportunity; another is: seizing that opportunity to make it work to your favor.

Among our eight million migrant workers all over the world, how many do you think have these twin skills of recognizing and seizing opportunity to work for them? Even if only half of them would have such skills, and granting that their remittances were properly (read: corruption-free) utilized by the government, don't you think our country would be much better off than it is now?

Reading today's Gospel evokes thoughts of a handful of Filipinos I personally know—one of them is Danny, an encoder at a printing press—who had gone abroad (a cliché coming) in search of greener pastures, made a relatively large fortune, but returned to the Philippines to find themselves in the same rut they left. You might wonder what went wrong. These Pinoys saw the opportunity (to work abroad and earn more) and seized it (to improve their lot), lived in relative comfort for a while, and then lost everything. How come?

More than just seeing and seizing the opportunity, the really smart worker must realize that sharing the fruits of this opportunity is what ultimately matters if true success must be held. Imagine what might have happened if Danny had invested in, say, a cottage industry and given jobs to others in his community. Try Seeing, Seizing and Sharing—a different SSS that's based on the justice of Jesus. (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)



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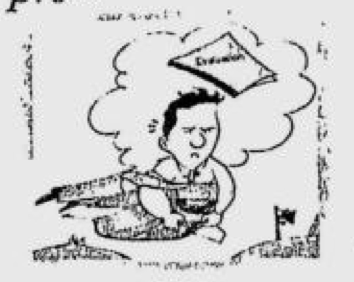
Gospel: Mt. 21: 33-43

Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit.

More Articles

Use the necktie for a successful image p.6★



Moving on: life after retrenchment or early retirement p.7★

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THE WORLD BANK OFFICE MANILA

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Use the necktie for a successful image

By Candy G. Villanueva
Contributor

(Continued from last week)

NOW THAT YOU KNOW how the knot should stand, do you actually know how to tie the knot?

There are several ways to wear a necktie but the most popular is the Windsor knot because it displays an air of confidence and is easy to do. Wide and triangular, the Windsor is perfect for presentations and job interviews. It goes best with spread collar shirts, long necks and fuller faces because the wide knot shortens the length of the neck and looks better under large chins.

$1MILLION$
YANK!

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

The four-in-hand, in contrast to the Windsor, is narrow and more discreet with its conical shape. Unlike the Windsor, it's suited for shorter necks because it offers an illusion of elongation. It's best for standard button-down shirts. Pick ties that are wide and heavier in make for the four-in-hand.

Pinning it down

Some might say tie clips and bars are for older men. But for practical reasons, they are best worn by almost anyone. For one, they keep the necktie in place. Secondly, and maybe most important of all, clips will keep your ties from swimming in your bowl of soup. Tie clips and bars also help maintain your neckwear's arch in the shirt collar.

Tie bars or tie slides are easy to use because you simply slide it across the middle part of the blade to attach it to your shirt. Always wear them angled slightly downward. The same goes for a tie clip or clasp.

Other options

The tie tack is fancier. It's made of two parts, the visible decorative part and a metal weight attached with a chain. The pin is pierced through the tie while the weight is inserted through a buttonhole in your shirt. Because the tack pierces the tie, you may want to think twice about using one; it could damage your expensive silk. Also, be choosy about the decorative pin. Go for simple understated stones that compliment your tie. Similarly, a tie chain is just as complicated. The upper part of the chain is hooked to one of your shirt's buttons while the chain itself is looped over the blade of the tie.

If you do not want anything distracting, a tie strap is something to consider. It's worn through the label loop and attached to your shirt buttons. It's more discreet than the other tie holds because it's made of cloth or plastic and is worn under the tie.

(E-mail feedback to candy villanueva@pldtdsl.net)

A formula for successful couples ...

From page 4★

sionary, and I leap forward to pursue an idea. It is Jorge's pragmatic sense that halts me and pulls me to the ground. It used to be that Jorge's meticulousness, his penchant to examine the details and read the fine print would irk me since I am always poised for action and wants results immediately. Instead of seeing the difference as cause for division, we see this as a big plus factor in our business relationship because we see each other's traits as a blessing for each other.

Your organization should have only one head, even if both spouses put up the business together. If a body has two heads, it will be a monster. The head makes the final decision after consulting the other spouse, and discussing the pros and cons. If the husband is the CEO, he makes the final decision only after he and his wife have discussed and agreed. In this way, there is no confusion and competition. Your employees know where the buck ends.

Agree on and have guidelines on how you will handle disagreements and discuss areas of conflict. An example is: when one spouse talks, the other listens and then paraphrases what was heard and understood. Or defer the discussion and sleep over it.

Proper perspective

Come to an agreement first before involving your managers and the rest of your staff in problem-solving. When the situation is stressful and you have serious and strong disagreements, stop and think: which is more important, our relationship or this business? Being constantly aware of your values and priorities is very important.

I am blessed that my husband Jorge is quick to forgive and forget. He never sleeps without embracing and kissing me, no matter how violently we might have disagreed. Jorge is also blessed because even if I am a self-confident and strong-willed person, I listen to him and submit to his judgment and decision, although at times grudgingly.

Agree on who takes charge of financial matters. The spouse who is good in financial management should call the shots. The other must submit to his or her authority in this matter.

Have a regular dialogue about personal family concerns, and another one on work or business concerns. Separate the two as much as possible. Don't wait for a problem or a crisis to crop up before you talk about it. If you do, emotions are likely to come in the way.

Put a space for physical and psychological growth between the two of you. Respect your spouse's need for privacy or to be by himself or herself. If he or she wants to have lunch with his or her friends, let him or her be and don't tag along.

Family time

Give quality time to your children. One reason why you put up your own business is that you don't like to have a boss. Very often, work becomes your boss; it even becomes your god. It controls, stresses, and it takes you away from your children in the evenings and even on weekends. There is no person in his deathbed who wishes he had more time for work. One's regret would always be that he or she has had more time for his family.

Have a regular date together just to be alone by yourselves. Go on a pleasure trip together and leave your business behind. Delegate a trusted and trained person to make decisions and take immediate action during your absence. Just enjoy yourselves.

Finally, and more importantly, make God the head of your business. Acknowledge that His goodness is the source of your success and that He is the only one who can help you in times of struggles and problems. Pray to Him before you start the day and seek the guidance of His Spirit in decisions you make. Thank Him at the end of the day.

I hope you have been helped by my advice. I hope your wife gets to read this career advice. God bless you both.

(Josie O. Santamaria, president of Career Systems, Inc., has a Ph.D in psychology and is a practicing psychologist, counselor, management consultant, executive coach and mentor. Send feedback to carsys@careersystems.com.ph.)

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Moving on: life after retrenchment or early retirement

By Suzie H. Arcenas

IN TODAY'S UNCERTAIN corporate environment, it is common to find managers and other professionals going through middle-age career transitions. Most of these are involuntary, brought about by corporate decisions to downsize jobs for the company's survival. One such manager recently had to leave a job of 20 years. He sensed that at middle age, his doors were closing and a chapter was over. It was natural to feel inadequate as one set forth alone in search for a new job. Did he have what it takes to change his life?

Fifty and fired

In the May 2 issue of Fortune Magazine, an article by John Helyar entitled "50 and Fired" tells a humane and intriguing story. It described the increasing cases of professional men and women who lose their jobs during their peak earning years. This phenomenon is true in our country where employees in late adult life may be eased out of their jobs for various reasons; company losses, reengineering organizations; outsourcing to other countries. The hard reality for mature adults is that getting an equal status job with similar pay is an illusion.

In our country, the professional in his late forties with about 20 years experience, will have a hard time matching his last job. He shall find support within his family if the wife is working and the children will downgrade their lifestyle. He may seek comfort in a church-based group discussing moral issues over breakfast. However, these groups are not trained to counsel on professional matters such as job search techniques and entrepreneurship. He may join a training center for cottage industries such as ornamental plants but a garden does not provide enough psychological support to face stressful times.

The challenges facing the prematurely retired professional may range from basic concerns of living with a reduced income to the hidden blow on one's ego. How does one plan on endless empty days after years of routine and deadlines? How can one relax at home when relationships may be strained by the former employee's constant presence? The void felt after a job loss can be paralyzing or liberating, depending on one's approach to the seemingly long days ahead.

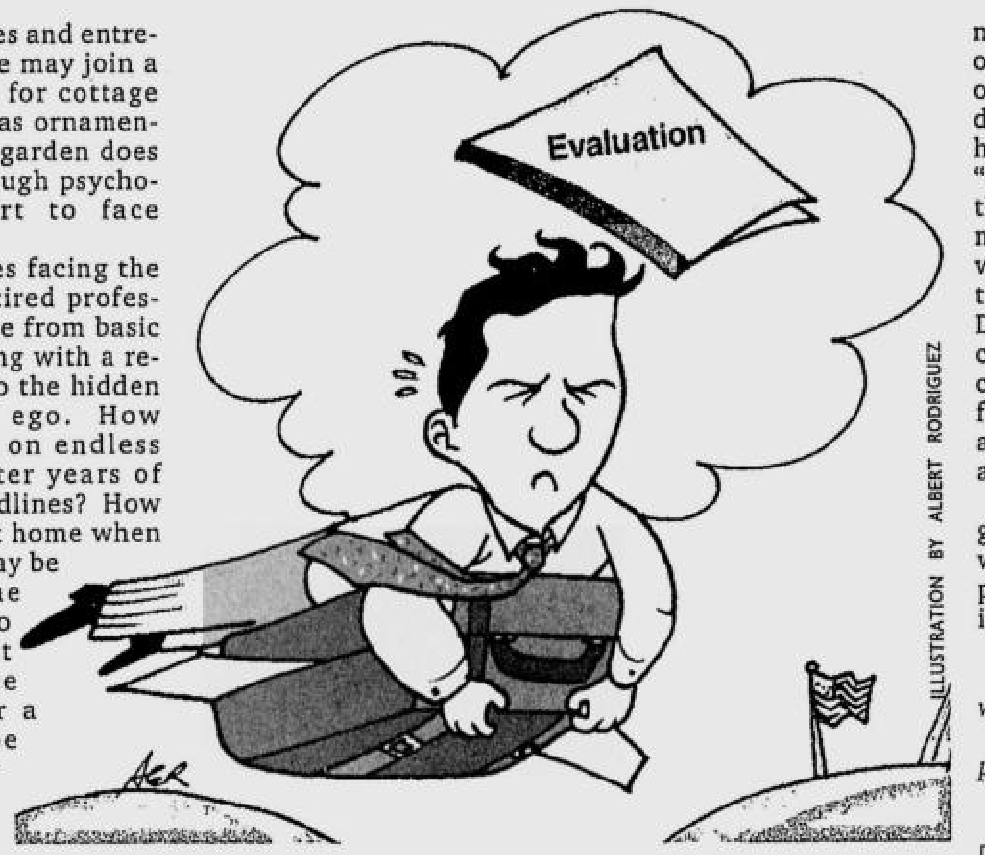

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Career redirection

A life-altering event such as early retirement or redundancy at age 40 may instigate several reactions. This is a chance to redirect one's career or to take up a dream such as exploring the country the "roll on-roll off way" or returning to college computer school. After years of stagnation on familiar territory, many have created lives richer than the ones they had. Creation may take various forms—teaching the youth, setting up a franchise, or nurturing a farm.

Decades ago, the years from 40 to 60 were meant for creative endeavor. Today, with a longer and healthier life span, creativity may go on to the 80s. Memoir writing, to be read by family and friends, is not confined to celebrities. Some write for emotional catharsis; others draw meaning from humble beginnings and beating the odds.

Active retirement course

Understanding the young, middle and late adult phases is the highlight of a course on "Active Retirement' By Drake Beam Morin (DBM) Phils., a company specializing in career transitions. The course dwells on how to meet one's passages, as if life had a structure of a play in four acts, four seasons, each dealing with a different facet of life's journey. As in a drama, each act is separated from the next by an intermission, a major transition period. How to live through this transition period is a course based on DBM's research and global experience. Through self-awareness tests and coaching, a client begins to plan on his next chapter, guided by a DBM Consultant.

What kind of work is desirable at this stage? What can be done to provide for greater learning within the same occupation or for shifting to a second career at early retirement? The answers do not come swiftly like a bolt of lightning. DBM's successful clients invested their time in looking within themselves. In many cases, a spark of interest in a chosen field grew to be an engrossing occupation.

Coming to terms

Take the case of the maintenance engineer who formed his own company to do contract services with his former corporate customers in his previous job. A lady finance manager lost her lucrative job and recovered a year later as operations manager of an emerging outsourcing company. Another lady logistics manager decided to transform her hobby into a business—a "bread shop." Letting go of the idea of lifetime employment, coming to terms with what happened, the one sure thing they learned from the DBM course—they are in charge of their lives. This can even lead to something fulfilling and exciting, such as the examples mentioned above.

Shakespeare, the great English playwright wrote these words, many years ago, displaying his keen understanding of human nature:

"All the world's a stage
And all the men and women merely players
And one man in his time plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages . . ."

These words resonate today, encouraging us to take on many roles without getting too attached to them. When the best-laid plans go wrong, we build our own resources—a confidence in our ability to embrace what life brings. We may not easily let go of a lost career but we can gather the strength to dare leap into the unknown.

(Suzie Hernaez Arcenas is the consultant in charge of senior managers and professionals in career transition. The first chapter of her resumé lists her job as human resource manager. At this chapter of her life, she advises companies on performance management and employees on change management and self-reliance.)

Be part of People at Work

WOULD you like to be part of a family that can help you in your career growth and development? Join the People at Work community where members support each other in the quest for better career and life. People at Work columnists, writers and editorial staff will also be part of this group to lend you a helping hand. Working professionals, jobseekers, human resource executives and practitioners, managers, trainers, consultants and all others willing to share and help are welcome to join. Members will have access to updates and discounts on People at Work events, advice from People at Work columnists and writers and other members, chat schedules with members and "eyeball" events. To join, send your name, gender, civil status, age, contact number, e-mail address and company name and position title (if applicable) to peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph or fax to tel. no. (632) 935-6678 from Mondays to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Candidate must be able to effectively communicate or coordinate with different departments and levels of the organization. Will be responsible for planning, directing, monitoring operations, handling sales staff and attaining sales targets. Trustworthy, hardworking, mature and self-motivated individual. Can work under pressure and with minimum supervision. Experience in a retail company is an advantage.

Willing to travel within Visayan Region, Resident of Cebu, must be able to speak and understand the Cebuano dialect.

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North Road 6, North Reclamation Area, Cebu City
412-8102 hrd@i-trend.com.ph

Contracts Administrator

PA Government Services Inc. (PA) is the prime contractor on the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Philippines Energy and Clean Air Project (ECAP). This Project is a multi-year initiative scheduled to operate through September 2008, with an option through September 2009. This position is for a Contract Administrator (CA) who will provide procurement and contracts support for the Project. This position is located in the Manila office.

The CA will report directly to the PA-Washington, DC Manager of Contracts, or his/her designee. The CA will report indirectly to the Project Chief of Party located in the Manila office.

ESSENTIAL TASKS

The CA will be responsible for subcontract administration to include all field purchase ordering, local subcontracting, and agreements with independent consultants in support of the project. This shall include soliciting local vendors and negotiating agreements with local vendors and subcontractors. CA will be responsible for utilizing PA's project approved formats and ensuring compliance with US Government (USAID) and PA regulations and procedures. CA is responsible to ensure that all contracting and procurement is completed in accordance with PA Government Services Inc.'s purchasing and procedures manual. Specific duties associated with this task include:

- Completion of Contractor/Procurement/Subcontract Requisition Forms in conjunction with the appropriate activity managers
- Development of subcontract and purchase order instruments for local vendors, subcontractors, and consultants according to PA's standard practices
- Tracking contract deliverables and schedules based on input from activity managers
- Providing information to COP, DCOP, assignment managers, task managers and local administrative staff on procurement requirements in line with FAR, AIDAR and other USAID procurement directives
- Maintaining local procurement files including all related documentation and correspondence
- Providing the PA-Washington office copies of all procurement documentation and ensuring both sets of files are in unison
- Support development of Request for Quotation and Request for Bids according to USAID regulations
- Lead team on evaluations and analysis of Quotations and Bids, ensuring consistency with USAID procurement regulations and PA requirements
- Close coordination with the Finance Group on contract payments to ensure that deliverables are met before payments are settled
- Maintains equipment transfer documents
- Other business / contract administration duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

The individual must be detail orientated with the ability to work to demanding deadlines and have good organizational and communication skills as well as:

- Bachelor's degree in Business Administration or similar discipline or minimum of five (5) years experience contracts role.
- A minimum of two (2) years prior experience with USAID contracting and procurement. Familiarity with and practical experience applying procurement regulations including FAR, AIDAR and acquisition directives (ADS) is required.
- At least two (2) years experience with Windows XP and MS Office Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word and Outlook.
- The ability to interact with all levels of staff, be a good team player but also be able to work alone and work effectively with little supervision.
- Verbal and written fluency in English is mandatory, as well as strong oral and written communication skills.
- Grants administration experience and a legal background are a plus, but not required.

If you have the interest, qualification and fortitude to take the challenges of the position, please submit detailed curriculum vitaé in MS Word format to: r_delacruz@ecap.com.ph or call 914-1106 for further details (look for Rona). Deadline for submission is October 10, 2005.

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Job Opportunities at Nami Resorts Inc. Interested applicants may call for appointment at 813-6264 / 812-1484 or bring your resumé at 1202 Sage House Bldg., 110 V. A. Rufino St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

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8) Superior managerial and leadership skills

Send your detailed bio-data and a recent photo (at least 2x2) to Personnel Dept, SMPC Bldg, 1308 P Guevarra corner E Remigio streets, Sta Cruz, Manila. Please indicate salary desired. Interviewees will be notified individually.

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- Can Speak Basic Japanese
- Can work w/ minimum supervision
- Honest and Hardworking

Please bring Resumé, NBI/Police Clearance and other credential at:

806 Arnaiz Ave.,(Formerly Pasay Road) San Lorenzo Village, Makati City (Back of Makati Cinema Square)

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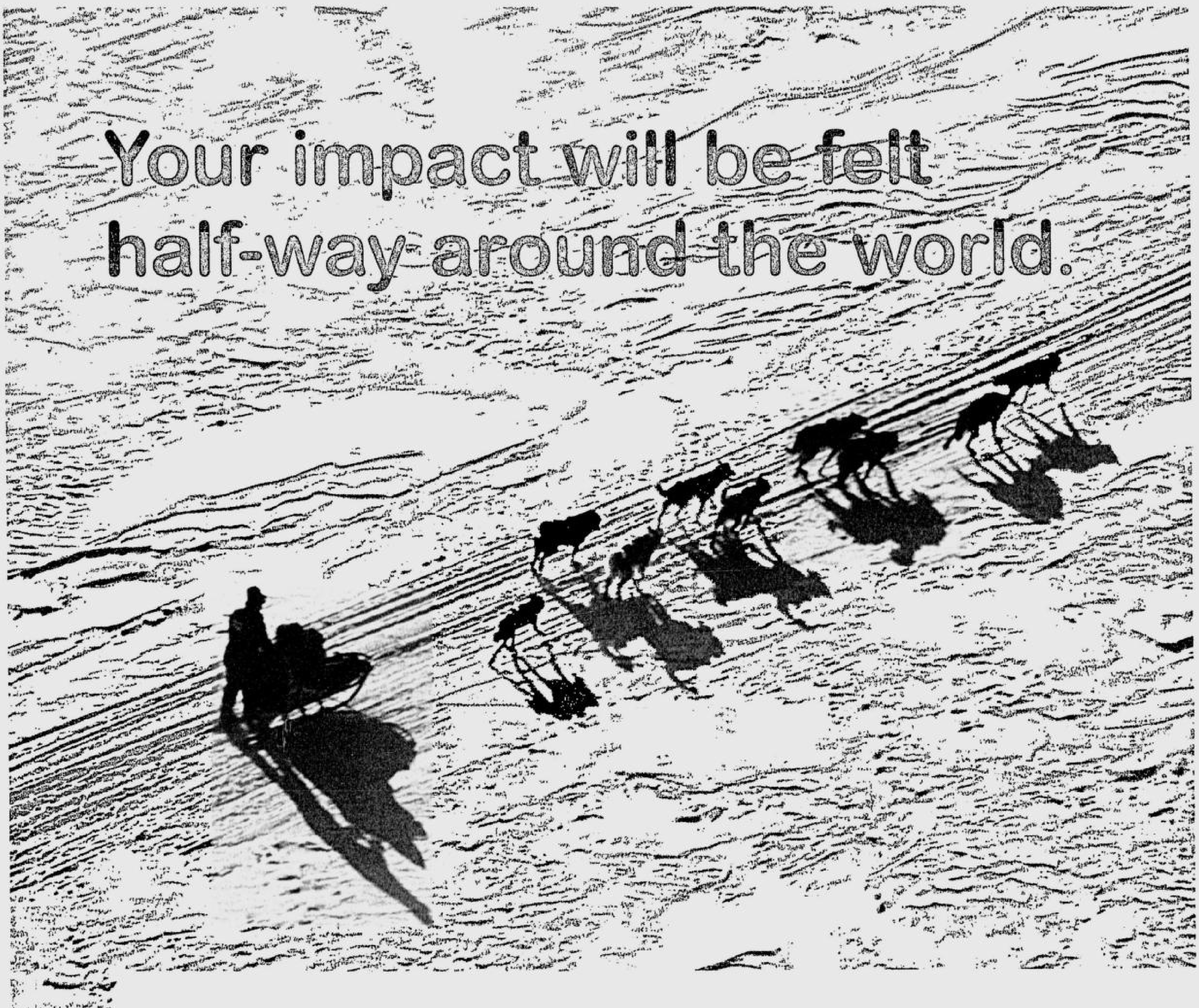

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Applicants must have initiative, superior communication and relationship-building skills and a high level of customer service orientation. Proficiency in Fookien / Mandarin a plus.

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In addition to a competitive compensation package, you can look forward to an exciting and challenging career in a highly dynamic organization that ensures superior training and rewards good performance.

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APPLICATIONS SOFTWARE ENGINEER CASH MANAGEMENT (ASE-Cash Mngt)
Candidates must be degree holder in Computer Science/Computer Engineering/Accounting, Finance or other relevant courses; with at least 4 years of application development experience. Candidates must have in-depth knowledge of Visual Basic; must have strong problem solving, analytical and communication skills; is well organized, can handle multiple projects, works well in teams, and able to work under pressure; willing to render overtime services as needed; knowledgeable in Accounting and Treasury.

Interested applicants are requested to bring their updated resume, recent 2x2 photo and Transcript of Records to:

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- Demonstrated ability in fund sourcing.
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Qualifications:

- College degree holder with post-graduate study an advantage
- Familiarity with the area and its political infrastructures
- Familiarity with the Family Planning Program and Contraceptive Self-Reliance Initiative Program
- Exposure to NGO FP programs an advantage
- Appreciation of family planning program success factors
- Ability to develop good working relationships with various sectors and associations
- Work experience includes positions requiring leadership skills, as well as integrative and strategic thinking
- Residence in the area is preferred.

Interested applicants should e-mail their application letter (indicating the preferred project area) and CV at jobs@prism.org.ph or send to;

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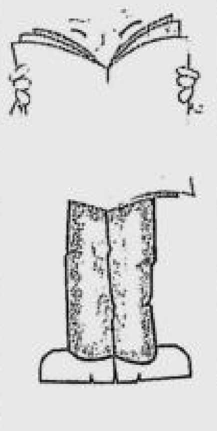

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- With at least 4 years experience

ACCOUNTING CLERK for LINGaP Foundation, Inc.

- At least 2 years experience
- Familiar in SureGL! Software is an advantage

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B.S. Accountancy graduate, knowledgeable in all accounting & administrative procedures and system in a Non-Government Organization (NGO) setting, computer literate, can work with minimal supervision, flexible and willing to work extended hours if so required.

Send resumé with cover letter, photo and a copy of transcript of records to:

EnFance Foundation, Inc.
Blk. 5 Lot 3 Tahimik St., Tondo, Manila
E-mail: enfance_foundation@yahoo.com

or

LINGaP Foundation, Inc.
105 P. Aquino Avenue, Brgy. Longos,
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- At least 3-5 years experience with a five star Hotel/Resort
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- A good team player
- Willing to work flexible hours
- Willing to relocate to a site in Northern Cebu

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- Candidate must have had at least 3 years experience in a five star hotel or resort
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- Must have a pleasant personality and must speak good English, knowledge of other languages is an advantage but not necessary.
- Must be able to train staff in handling of guests.
- A Good team player and should have good and strong leadership traits.
- Willing to work flexible hours.
- Creative in organizing guest activities

Position is resort based and accommodations are provided for the chosen individuals.

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Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Or you may email us at contactus@myhomeland.com.ph
For details, call us at 635-0662 or 631-5712.

Please submit your resume with your most recent 2x2 photo
NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 7, 2005.

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Look for Geralyn Naparato
or email: pmc_distrib@yahoo.com

NEEDED
Spanish Speaking Office Staff

- Male or Female
- College Graduate
- Fluent in English & Spanish (spoken and written)
- Knowledge in international trading preferred but not required
- Work experience preferred
- Willing to travel abroad

Please submit comprehensive resumé with picture to:

c/o Lifestyle Tableware Corporation
Unit 907 Crisanta Tower, 325 H. Javier
St. Oranbo, Pasig City or
Email: lifestyletableware@yahoo.com

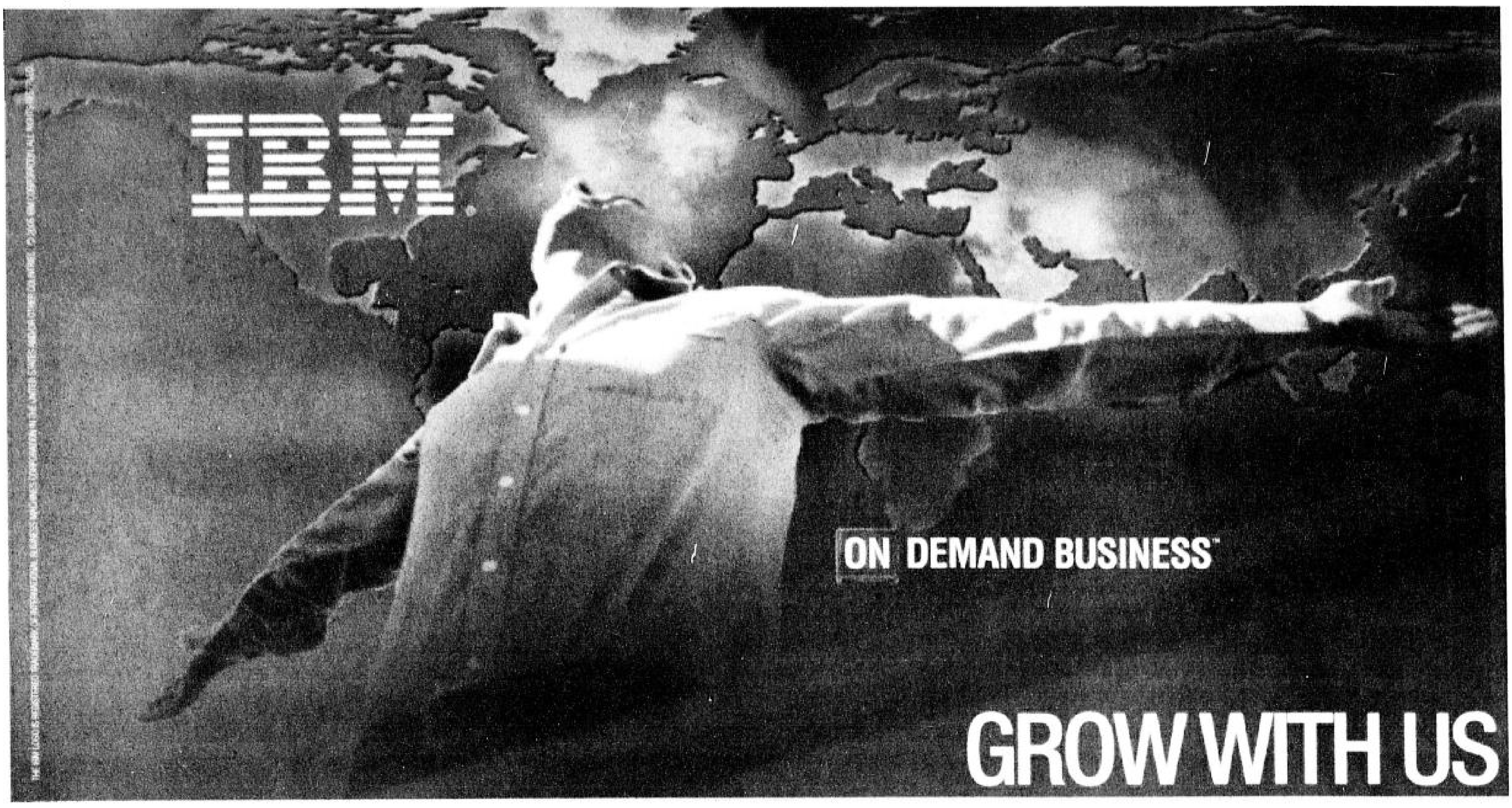
JOB Market

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.

FINANCIAL ANALYST

- Graduate of Accounting, Business, Economics or Similar Course
- Proficient in Excel
- Can analyze financial statements

E-mail resumé to
penarandaconsulting@yahoo.com



DAKSH IS NOW IBM DAKSH BUSINESS PROCESS SERVICES PHILIPPINES INC.

AT DAKSH, MORE THAN BEFORE, THINGS ARE LOOKING UP. WE'RE NOW A PART OF IBM, THE WORLD'S LARGEST INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BUSINESS SOLUTIONS COMPANY. WHILE OUR VALUES, COMMITMENT AND OUR PEOPLE ARE THE SAME, OUR SCOPE OF OPERATIONS HAS WIDENED ENORMOUSLY. OF COURSE THIS MEANS YOUR GROWTH PROSPECTS HAVE INCREASED AS WELL. YOU'LL NOW WORK FOR A GLOBAL EMPLOYER IN A SET-UP THAT HAS AN INTERNATIONAL ORIGIN AND VALUES. WE REMAIN A THIRD PARTY SERVICE PROVIDER THAT IS READY TO BE RECKONED AS A WORLD LEADER IN BTO. SO DON'T BE LEFT BEHIND. JOIN US AND MOVE UP IN LIFE.

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College Calls
October 5 7, 2005
Megatrade Hall 3,
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17/F Equitable PCI Tower
Paseo de Roxas Ave. Makati City.
Mondays to Fridays (9 AM to 8 PM)
Saturdays (9 AM to 6 PM)

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Customer Care Specialists

Responsible for providing excellent customer service and inbound sales by phone on a 24x7 basis

Job Requirements
- Graduate of any Bachelor's Degree
- Must possess excellent oral and written English communication skills
- Must be proficient in the use of computers and various applications
- Willing to work in a fast-paced, dynamic, and schedule shifting environment
- Fresh graduates are welcome. Prior call center experience would be an advantage
- Call Center experience is an advantage.

Call 81-Daksh (81-32574) **Email** your resume at applications@daksh.com.ph

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Operations Managers
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Team Leaders
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Workforce Management Leaders

Quality Manager
- Process Improvement

Quality Manager
- Quality Management Systems

Quality Assurance Leaders
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Purchasing Manager
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Quality Consultant
- Speaks either Mandarin or Cantonese

Call Center experience is a must for support and leadership posts

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Website: www.apaccustomerservices.com

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INQUIRER
JOB Market
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2005
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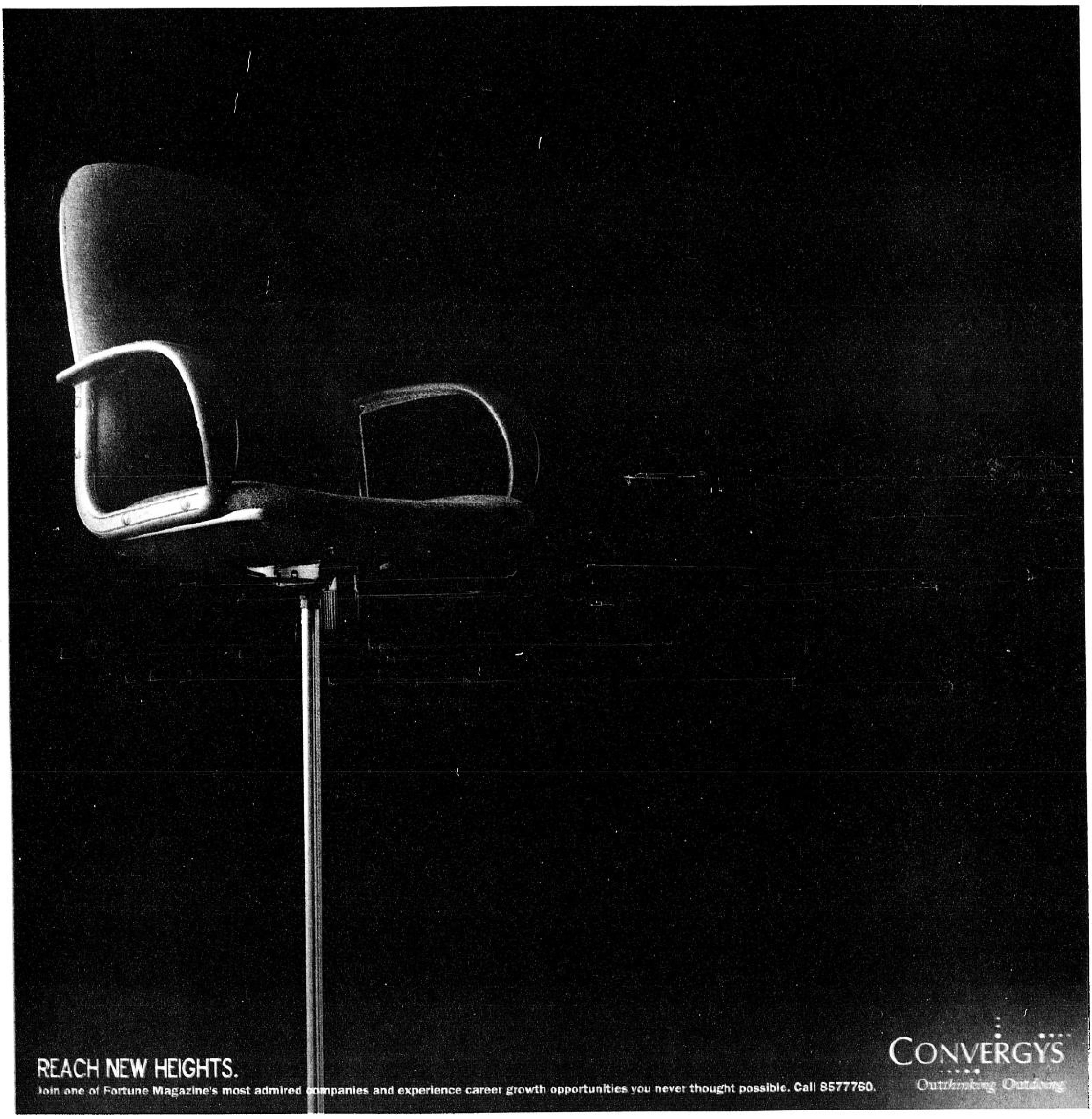

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OUTBOUND CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES
Site: Makati

Educational Background
- Bachelor's degree preferred
- Minimum requirement: Completion of at least 2 years of college studies

Candidate Profile
- Proficient in basic computer skills
- Open to working odd hours
- Is fluent in English and highly conversational
- Should be energetic, lively and enthusiastic, while providing professional customer service
- Applicants with at least six (6) months of call center experience (preferably outbound) are encouraged to apply

INBOUND TECHNICAL CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES
Site: Ortigas, Commonwealth, Makati

Educational Background
- Bachelor's degree preferably in Computer Science

Canditate Profile
- Proficient in basic computer skills
- Open to working odd hours
- Courteous, attentive and able to develop rapport
- Dependable and has good work ethic
- Pays attention to detail
- Is fluent in English and highly conversational
- Has technical knowledge in DSL, Internet and networking

INBOUND CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES
Site: Ortigas, Commonwealth, Alabang, Makati, Cebu

Educational Background
- Bachelor's degree from any field
- Minimum requirement: Completion of at least 2 years of college studies

Candidate Profile
- Proficient in basic computer skills
- Open to working odd hours
- Courteous, attentive and able to develop rapport
- Dependable and has good work ethic
- Pays attention to detail
- Is fluent in English and highly conversational
- Problem solver

TEAM LEADERS

- At least 6 months previous experience as a Supervisor/Team Leader
- Bachelor's degree in related field
- Call center/customer service background is preferred
- Strong ability to maximize performance
- Willing to be assigned in any location

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#4 ADB Avenue Ortigas Center
Pasig City
(02)857-7588

Commonwealth Office
Diliman Commercial Center
#46 Don Mariano Marcos Avenue,Diliman
Quezon City
(02)931-3710

Alabang Office
Block 44, Northgate Cyberzone
Muntinlupa City
(02)758-1688

Makati Office
8th Floor, Tower 2, The Enterprise Tower
Ayala Avenue
Makati City
(02)857-7788

Cebu Office
R. Arcenas Street, Arcenas Estate
Banawa Hills
Cebu City
(032)416-6810

MANAGERIAL

SOLID CEMENT CORPORATION Antipolo City · CEMEX PHILIPPINES · APO

CEMEX is a leading global producer of cement and ready mix with presence in over twenty countries. In the Philippines, it has Solid Cement Corporation and APO Cement Corporation as member companies.

The Company is looking for driven individuals for the following positions:

FIELD OPERATOR KILN & COOLER

☐ Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering
☐ Has at least two (2) years' relevant experience in cement manufacturing
☐ Has knowledge in basic Maintenance
☐ Has knowledge in material handling equipment
☐ Holder of a professional driver's license

ELECTRICAL & INSTRUMENTATION TECHNICIAN

☐ Graduate of a two (2) year electrical or electronic course, College graduate is a plus
☐ Has at least two (2) years' relevant experience in a manufacturing organization
☐ Has basic knowledge in electrical and instrumentation equipment maintenance and troubleshooting
☐ Computer literate

PORT OPERATIONS COORDINATOR for CEBU

☐ Graduate of BS Marine, BS Marine Transportation, Mechanical or Chemical Engineering or any related education
☐ Has at least three (3) years relevant experience in the shipping industry
☐ Has three to five (3-5) years relevant experience in port operations
☐ Familiar with Port and Shipping operations, and regulations, both domestic and foreign
☐ Familiar with vessel management and its operations

Send your resumes via email: **jobs_ecf@cemex.com.ph**
Via post: Box # MN-007-CX,
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classifieds Division
Chino Roces Avenue
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SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER

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Develop distributed software components and application packages to support advanced telecommunication systems. Use C++ and Java to incorporate state-of-the-art technologies for software engineering including XML, CORBA, UML, Java Swing, etc. We provide systematic and intensive training in fundamental and specialized technologies. All our projects are for foreign customers, and there are regular opportunities to travel and train abroad.

The Ideal Candidate:

☐ Graduate of any computer related course (B.S. degree)
☐ Has several years experience programming in C, C++, Java or other general purpose programming languages
☐ Has demonstrated capacity to apply software techniques to team projects
☐ Has independent ability to acquire and apply software development technologies
☐ Good team player; With strong organizational and leadership skills

Qualified applicants may e-mail their application letter, resume w/ 2X2 photo, and photocopy of TOR on or before October 7, 2005 to:

jobs@ntsp.nec.co.jp

(Please type "Senior Engineer" in subject domain of e-mail)

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admired® TECHNOLOGIES

Admired Technologies Inc., a 100% Filipino-owned ICT company, is currently looking for Information Technology (IT) professionals:

35 JAVA PROGRAMMERS

- With at least 2 years experience in programming using Java
- Knowledgeable in almost all of the following: JSP, Servlet, JDBC, XML, Applet, Swing
- Preferably knowledgeable in Oracle Application Server, Jboss, Tomcat, Sun One
- At least Oracle 9i experience
- Computer Science or any related course

8 ORACLE PL/SQL PROGRAMMERS

- With at least 1 year experience in programming using Oracle PL/SQL
- With solid experience in Systems Development on Oracle HTTP Server (Web Server), Oracle Application Server (OAS) Environment; Sun One
- With background in Oracle Internet Tools and PL / SQL Web Tool Kit and Oracle Developer 2000 (Forms and Reports)
- Computer Science or any related course

2 ORACLE DATABASE ADMINISTRATORS

- With at least 2 years experience in UNIX / scripting language preferably Bourne Shell
- Knowledgeable in Oracle 7.3.4, 8i, 9i, 10g and Oracle Pro-C
- Ability to create SQL scripts
- Computer Science or any related course

4 SYSTEMS ANALYSTS

- With at least 5 years related experience
- Familiar with tools used to capture business models (UML, RUP, OOAD)
- Competent in analysis and design
- Good facilitator and must have adequate communication skills
- Computer Science or any related course

Applicants may ***e-mail*** or ***personally submit*** their resume with 2 x 2 picture to:
Admired Technologies, Inc. • Attention: ***HR Department***
Unit 615 Globe Telecom Plaza 2 Pioneer Cor. Madison Streets, Mandaluyong City 1550
Look for: Joanne Lanuza • ***E-mail Address:*** jlanuza@admired.ph • ***Tel No:*** 719-2701 to 02

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AN EXCLUSIVE AND NEWLY BUILT HOTEL IN BORACAY IS IN NEED OF:

15 FRONT DESK OFFICERS

QUALIFICATIONS & BENEFITS:

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- COLLEGE GRADUATE with good communication skills
- Willing to be relocated in Boracay Island
- Good compensation package awaits the short listed applicants
- Free board and lodging will be provided by the company
- Salary is negotiable depending on job experience

Interested applicants may submit their resumé through this email address: oliver_BSH@yahoo.com.ph & contact Oliver at CP #0928-4330559 on or before October 10, 2005 to set for an interview schedule.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

We are looking for highly ambitious, motivated, aggressive and talented individuals who want to be part of the fastest growing group of companies based in northern Luzon. Applicants must have strong leadership characters, knowledgeable and experienced in their respective fields of expertise. Successful applicants can look forward to a financially rewarding future with assurances of long term employment. A bachelor's degree applicable and complementary to the position applied for with above average academic accomplishments, proficiency in oral and written communication skills (Pilipino and English) and computer literacy are a must.

MARKETING MANAGER

With at least 3 years experience in marketing and distribution, advertising & promotion and management of a sales network in real estates and/or various consumer products.

NUTRITIONIST & DIETITIAN

Licensed; With at least 3 years experience in food service management

PROJECT MANAGER

With at least 5 years experience in all aspects of project management particularly in the construction and development of hotels, resorts and subdivisions.

FINANCE MANAGER

CPA; With experience in banking and finance.

Send resumé with recent 2 x 2 photo,
work certifications and other credentials to
the HR Manager, No. 340 G. Araneta Ave.,
Quezon City • bcsmanila@pldtdsl.net

IN SEARCH

WE ARE A COMPANY KNOWN FOR 25 YEARS IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY TO DELIVER QUALITY SPECIALIZED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES. IN LINE WITH THE COMPANY'S REORGANIZATION AND EXPANSION WE ARE IN SEARCH OF PERSONS QUALIFIED FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

- Graduates of Civil Engineering, Architecture or Business Management major in Marketing, an avid reader with keen observation and a fast learner.
- Age from 25 yrs. to 35 yrs. with at least 4 years working experience. Experience in sales of industrial/ construction materials is an advantage but not necessary.
- Should possess pleasant and executive like personality with very good PR, resourceful, mobile, hardworking, and have leadership qualities.
- Possess very good communication, presentation and negotiation skills. Computer literate and knowledgeable on the use of Words, Excell, Powerpoint and Project Mgt.

For interested persons including those outside of Metro-Manila such as from cities of Cebu, Iloilo and Davao, we invite you to send your Resumé with 2x2 photo and a brief essay on why you believe that you possess all of the qualities stated above to:

THE APPRENTISE BOX CODE NO. 555
c/o PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER,
CLASSIFIED DIVISION
5th Level, SM Megamall B
Mandaluyong, Metro Manila
specserv@pacific.net.ph

DIRECT HIRING!!!

A progressive company is looking for professionals to IMMEDIATELY fill the following positions:

SALES AGENT
DOCUMENT CONTROL OFFICER
DISPATCH OFFICER / WAREHOUSE STAFF
AUDITING CLERK / BRANCH CASHIERS
MARKETING / PURCHASING CLERK

Required: Grad of 4 years Commerce or any related course; not over 27 years old, can work with minimum supervision; work experience in respective field preferred.

BRANCH MANAGER / PLANT MANAGER

Required: College degree in Commerce or Marketing; 27-35 years old; at least 3 yrs. experience in branch retail sales or in respective field; w/ high level of responsibility; willing to be assigned to provincial areas.

COMPANY DRIVERS / LABORERS

Required: 20-28 years old; at least 5'5" in height; High School Grad.; work experience preferred; willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon. For Drivers: Prof. Driver's License (RC 1, 2 & 3)

Please send your resumé with ID picture
and transcript of records to:
HRD Department;
E-mail at **gla_humanrec@skyinet.net**
or send via **P.O. Box 12253 Ortigas Center, Pasig City**
or you may call **Leizel at 911-4001 to 03**

WANTED

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ASST. SALES MANAGER

QUALIFICATIONS

- Pleasing personality
- Must have good leadership skills
- With proven track record in sales and marketing
- Communicates well in oral and written English
- Computer literate

Send complete resumé , transcript of records, and 2x2 photo to

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www.dls-csb.edu.ph

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Minimum of eight years experience in food preparation and cooking in accordance with international standards; must be adept in menu planning; must know food cost control, creative and service-oriented; can deal with all levels in the organization; with proven leadership qualities; personable and neat; must know principles of food sanitation and hygiene

SALES EXECUTIVE

HRM graduate or any business course; with at least one year hotel sales and marketing exposure; can work under pressure; pleasing personality; excellent interpersonal and communication skills

SOUS CHEF

Five years experience in a first class or deluxe hotel, two years of which in a supervisory capacity; with leadership qualities; able to train and motivate people; cost conscious; personable and neat

SENIOR STEWARD

College graduate with five years work experience in a first class hotel, two years of which in a supervisory capacity; detail-oriented with good leadership skills; good interpersonal skills

CHEF DE PARTIE

Five years experience in a first class or deluxe hotel, two years of which in supervisory capacity; with leadership qualities; able to train and motivate people; cost-conscious; personable and neat

CAFETERIA SUPERVISOR

Graduate of HRM or any related course; male or female; at least 5'4 in height; with at least two years experience; customer-oriented with excellent interpersonal skills

FRONT OFFICE STAFF

HRM graduate or equivalent; 20-26 years old; at least 5'4" in height for female and at least 5'7 for male; with pleasing personality and excellent communication skills; customer-oriented; with at least two years work experience in the service industry; preferably familiar with Fidelio system

ENGINEERING ASSISTANT

Registered Electrical Engineer; must have had three years experience in building maintenance; computer literate

OUTLET SUPERVISOR

HRM or any business course with five years experience in a first class hotel, two years of which in a supervisory capacity with emphasis in the marketing of the food and beverage outlet

Interested applicants may send their application letter together with their resume, 2 x 2 colored picture, and other credentials to the address below or email us at pmdo@dls-csb.edu.ph

THE DIRECTOR
Personnel Management and Development Office
De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde
2544 Taft Avenue, Manila

De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde
2544 Taft Avenue, Manila, Philippines 1004

TOOL & DIE MAKERS

Applicant should have at least 5 to 7 years experience, with knowledge and experience in press tools, cutting tools, presses, operating of Lathe, grinding machine, E.D.M. and C.N.C. milling machine. Knowledge in Autocad is an advantage.

Please email resume to **drb318@yahoo.com**
or call Menchu Berena at
714-7114 or 716-1871

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Minimum of 5 years sales experience in a managerial capacity ▪ Consistent in reaching sales targets ▪ Branch banking experience preferred but not required ▪ Chinese-speaking (an advantage for some branches) ▪ Client centered and values customer service ▪ Self-driven and results oriented ▪ Proven leadership capabilities

BRANCH SERVICE AND CONTROL OFFICERS

Metro Manila, Mindanao (Roving), Vigan, Cauayan-Isabela, Ormoc, Capas-Tarlac

Extensive experience in cash operations ▪ Seasoned in supervising Tellers and New Accounts Staff ▪ Client centered and values customer service ▪ Highly proficient in MS Office

MARKETING OFFICER (Chinese)

Minimum of 2 years proven track record in sales (in a supervisory capacity) ▪ With significant and extensive experience in developing marketing plans ▪ Must be Chinese-speaking ▪ Client centered and values customer service ▪ Highly assertive and can work with minimal supervision ▪ Highly proficient in MS Office

PRODUCT MANAGER (OFW)

Between 28-35 years old ▪ Graduate of any four-year business-related course ▪ With at least 8 years of working experience, at least 3 years of which were spent in Asia or the U.S. (Preference shall be given to those with experience related to accounting or financial services) ▪ Must have working knowledge of the OFW market ▪ Must have excellent writing, presentation and project management skills ▪ Proficient in MS Office

DEVELOPERS CHANNEL DEPARTMENT HEAD (Mortgage Banking)

Must be a college graduate ▪ Between 28-35 years old ▪ Must have at least 4-5 years sales experience in mortgage loans ▪ Excellent communication and presentation skills ▪ Proficient in MS Office

ACCOUNT OFFICER (Mortgage Banking)

Between 25-35 years old ▪ With at least two (2) years experience as account officer for housing loans ▪ Previous experience in handling end-buyer financing for developers an advantage ▪ Assertive and results-oriented ▪ With excellent interpersonal, communications and presentation skills

PROJECT MANAGER

Between 27-33 years old ▪ Holder of a bachelor's degree in Computer, Information Technology or other computer-related courses ▪ With experience in Data Warehouse Project Development (an advantage) ▪ Must be skilled in Oracle Technology, Tools such as PL-SQL, SQL Loader and Forms ▪ Can review codes and do enhancements ▪ Good in analytical and system design ▪ With at least 3 years project management experience ▪ Has done intensive back-end processing projects

SYSTEMS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER

▪ Holder of a bachelor's degree in Computer, Information Technology and other computer-related courses ▪ Must have at least 1-3 years experience in Microsoft .Net framework ▪ Must have at least 1-3 years experience in Oracle programming (forms, reports, PL/SQL) ▪ Must have at least 1-3 years experience in Oracle programming (forms, reports, PL/SQL) ▪ Good in analytical and system design ▪ Has done intensive back-end processing project ▪ Permanent and contractual positions available

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY SEND THEIR APPLICATION LETTER AND RESUME WITH 2" X 2" COLORED ID PICTURE TO:

THE RECRUITMENT DEPARTMENT
PSBank Center, 777 Paseo de Roxas corner Sedeño St., Makati City
Email: ALRelucio@psbank.com.ph
(use APPLICATION <position desired> as subject line)
Deadline for submission is **Friday, 14 October 2005**

Previous applicants need not apply.

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PSBank Money CARD
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Abbott Laboratories Philippines will soon be spinning off it's Hospira Division into a new company. **HOSPIRA's** presence in the Philippines signifies a milestone. While **HOSPIRA's** strategic intent remains that of becoming a broad-based health care company of proprietary pharmaceuticals as well as advanced medical products on high-growth platforms, it will focus on research & development on hospital products.

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Coordinates and manages all Regulatory and Quality functions and related activities in accordance with corporate standards to assure that proper controls are instituted and maintained for all aspects in the Philippines. Establishes and implements necessary policies and procedures for inspecting and controlling raw and packaging materials and assaying in-process and finished products to insure that all products generated conform to predetermined National and Corporate standards and specifications.

Qualifications:

- •Registered Pharmacist;
- •Strong interpersonal and team skills;
- •Excellent communication and presentation skills;
- •At least 3 years experience in managing Regulatory and Quality Assurance unit/section of a pharmaceutical company;
- •Knowledgeable in Pharmacovigilance and Medical Affairs;
- •Must be proficient in Microsoft Outlook, Excel, Powerpoint, Word.

Finance and Administration Manager

Develops, maintains and executes policies and procedures that include Finance, credit and collection, payables, contracts, payroll, logistics and motor vehicle fleet. Provides IT related assistance to the organization. Plans, commissions and controls research and audit data to provide support to sales/marketing, identify product opportunities, provide market assessments and contribute to sales / marketing decisions.

Qualifications:

- •Business course, preferably CPA;
- •Experience in managing finance, logistics and administration in a multinational setting;
- •Strong interpersonal and team skills;
- •Excellent communication and organization skills;
- •Must be proficient in Microsoft Outlook, Excel, Powerpoint, Word.

Interested applicants should:

Submit an updated resume with colored ID picture to:

Human Resources Dept
(Code:HSP)
Abbott Laboratories Philippines
102 EDSA, Mandaluyong City

OR

Send resume thru e-mail to:
teresita.bernardo@abbott.com

OR

log on to:
www.abbottrecruitment.com.ph

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We are also looking for:

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TEAM MANAGERS
TRAINERS (STA. ROSA ONLY)

We will be in the following sites on the following dates:

October 15, 2005 - Alabang Town Center Activity Center (1 day Recruitment Hiring Activity)

October 15 – 16, 2005 – JOB EXPOSITION 2005 Festival Supermall 4th Level Expo Trade and Music Hall, Alabang Muntinlupa

TO APPLY: VISIT US AT OUR MAKATI OFFICE: 11th Floor Tower 2, RCBC Plaza Ayala Avenue corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City. Please bring an updated resume with photo.

YOU MAY ALSO VISIT OUR ALABANG RECRUITMENT OFFICE STARTING OCTOBER 3, 2005: Unit 702 Ground Floor Kennedy Center, Prime Street, Madrigal Business Park Ayala Alabang Muntinlupa City. FOR INQUIRIES PLEASE CALL 755-1600

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- ***Inbound Customer Service Representatives***
- ***Nihongo - Speaking Customer Service Representatives***
- ***Mandarin - Speaking Customer Service Representatives***
- ***Quality Assurance Specialists***
- ***Human Resources Associates***
- ***Registered Nurse***
- ***IT Specialists/Officers***
- ***Company Driver***
- ***Executive Assistant***
- ***Facilities Engineers (Licensed Electrical Engineers)***

All applicants should be open to shifting schedules

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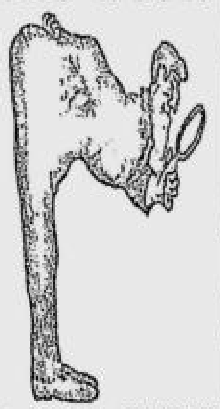

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October 2, 2005
sundayINQUIRERmagazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

LISA GOKONGWEI-CHENG

Yes! She's the Daughter of Fortune and a Man Who Loves Books

Or how boring summer jobs, zero parental expectations and the closing down of a family-owned newspaper got Lisa Gokongwei on top of a successful glossy magazine empire

Bye-bye Belly Fat
Men'sHealth
MORE SEX!
TURN FAT INTO MUSCLE
PHILIPPINE EDITION

by Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
photograph by Raffy Lerma

ON any given day, this woman whose name sits on top of her magazines' mastheads, tells readers which wine goes with what entree, where to score the best French manicure, how to impress Mr. Right before dinner and why AIDS is a pressing woman's issue.

But today, in a cotton purple tee, workaday pants and no make-up, Lisa Gokongwei is hardly the fairy godmother that readers of Summit Media imagine her to be. Bent on coaxing yet another glossy out of the clutter of her office, she is plain 'Nay, short for *Manay*, among her staff, or Ma'am Lisa, the Woman Who Watches the Bottomline. More than the company's General Manager-Publisher, she is better known as one of the six children of John and Elizabeth Gokongwei who were raised to join the family's considerable business empire consisting of real estate, telecommunication, retail and manufacturing, banking, airline, property management and publication.

Though there was no pressure to get into the family business, "the prevailing rule was that if you didn't work in the business, you didn't get any part of it," says Lisa of the strict work ethic that the Gokongweis are known for. High school summers meant "doing mind-numbing work like tagging boxes inside warehouses," with their parents' unmistakable message that they had to work hard like the rest of the population. The message was further reinforced by the elder Gokongweis both holding down jobs and subscribing to two simple mottos: "If you don't speak Chinese, you can't talk," and "If you don't work, you don't eat."

Like most Chinese parents, the Gokongweis expected a lot from their children, especially eldest daughter Robina and only son Lance, who both excelled academically. Recalls Lisa: "When it got to me and my three younger siblings Faith, Hope and Marcia, my parents had no expectations at all. And it showed. Our grades were not that good but we were more relaxed people and less driven. I think this freedom from expectations also allowed us to pursue what we wanted to do later in life rather than being force-fed responsibilities," says this Ateneo Communications graduate.

It was a privileged life although not a luxurious one, she reveals. "We had a comfortable home, access to all the books we wanted, very nice household help, a fantastic education and travel experiences. But our parents also lived very simply and were always kind to people."

Indeed, it was a far cry from the lean days when war turned life upside down for the Gokongweis who were originally from Cebu, says Lisa. "One of our ancestors, Pedro Gotiaco, got off the boat from China sometime in the 1900s." Life was good for John Gokongwei until his father died shortly before the war. "Here the story turned from riches to rags, because his creditors took away everything they owned including the biggest theater in Cebu at that time," recounts Lisa.

Things got so difficult for the young widow, Juanita, Lisa's paternal grandmother, that she had to send back five of her six children to China where the cost of living was much cheaper. Only eldest son John stayed, peddling soap, candles and other goods on

To page 2

That Rural Flavor from A Weekend Farmer p.4 • His Family Genes Are Too Strong. Especially for Malacañang. p.6

Lisa*...from page 1*

his trusty bicycle when he was 13. When his capital got bigger, he bought a boat ("a *batel*," describes Lisa), and started an import-export business with *retazos* (textile scraps). Each *batel* trip took five days to a week to negotiate, and the elder Gokongwei turned to books to fight off the ennui. On one such *batel* trip, her father finished "Gone with the Wind," says Lisa, tracing the enduring love for books that their famous father bequeathed them. "Every weekend when we were growing up, we'd go to Bookmark Makati and buy all the books we wanted," she recalls. "When it came to books, no budget was imposed."

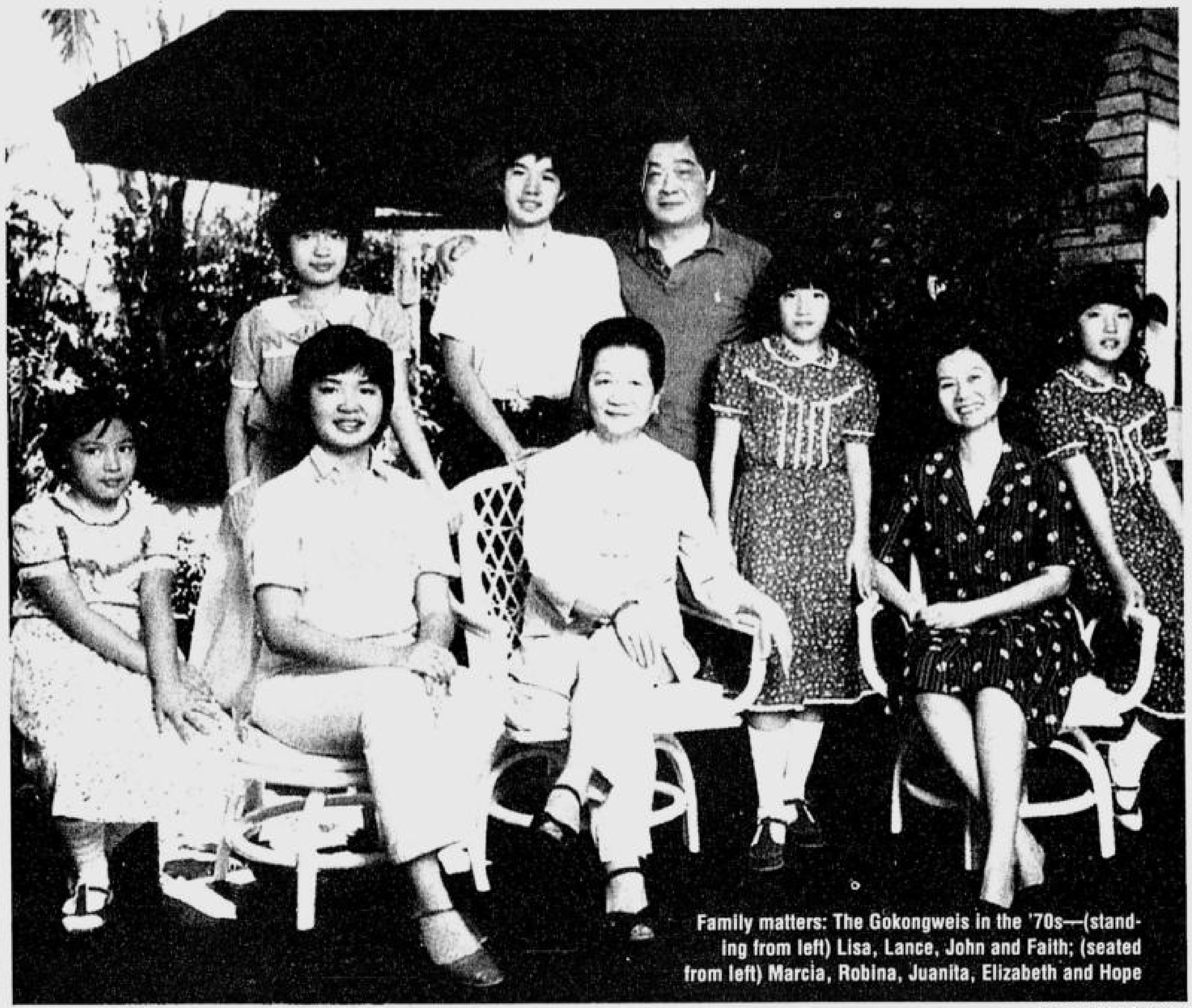
Flourishing business

Her father's buy and sell business flourished as well and soon, he got into manufacturing and services, says Lisa, of the man behind Robinson's Land, Bank and Department Store, Cebu Pacific, JG Holdings, Sun Cellular, Consolidated Foods (chocolates, cookies, chips, distilled water, etc), Mini-Stop convenience stores, and Summit Media, among other businesses.

The Gokongweis also ventured into newspaper publishing in the late 1990s, but had to sell the Manila Times posthaste when a page 1 apology didn't appease then President Estrada who had felt offended by an innocuous political headline. Says Lisa of the experience that saw the well-edited broadsheet go under: "Unfortunately in our country, you piss off the powers-that-be, they find a way to piss you off in return. So we decided, let's leave hard journalism and get into soft journalism. Let's leave the fighting to the INQUIRER and the Star. They're better at it anyway, and have more guts. Ha-ha."

That decision led to Summit Media which in 1995, started publishing Preview. Today, it has 21 titles in its stable, most of them franchises of popular glossies abroad: Candy, Cosmopolitan, Disney Princess, Entrepreneur, FHM, Games Master, Good Housekeeping, Hi!, Men's Health, K-Zone, Monster Allergy, Ok!, Real Living, Seventeen, Smart Parenting, T3, Top Gear, Total Girl, Witch and Yes!, a showbiz entertainment magazine. Its latest offering, Marie Clare, which Lisa describes as being "for the more matured Cosmopolitan woman who's gone from being me-centered to socially-conscious," is hitting the newsstands soon.

Business is good, she says, though not enough to make one super-rich. Although FHM made local publishing history, Lisa considers Yes!—her personal favorite—their biggest seller with a circulation of 136,000. Their smallest player is Top Gear at 16,000. For her role at Summit, Lisa considers instrumental her gay friends way back in college who "unleashed the *bakya* (pedestrian) in me." She adds: "I believe that being able to converse like a gay man has helped me get along with my staff and become more open-minded, which is necessary in this industry." For her journalism theory, she went to Columbia University.



Family matters: The Gokongweis in the '70s—(standing from left) Lisa, Lance, John and Faith; (seated from left) Marcia, Robina, Juanita, Elizabeth and Hope

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Serve a purpose

From soft journalism, Summit has branched out into books, "light novellas or chick lit that can be considered the local counterpart of Bridget Jones' diaries." Though critics have dissed the titles as being less than serious literature, Lisa thinks "they're not badly done, and they serve a purpose." She's had to fend off similar criticisms about her other glossy publications which, despite regular features on domestic abuse, self-esteem and women's health, continue to rile some quarters for allegedly encouraging unbridled consumption and stoking the many insecurities of less endowed women. Says Lisa: "Everybody's entitled to their own opinion, but we're not forcing people to read or buy our publications. It's like when we teach women how to have an orgasm through our magazines. Some readers might find that offensive, but again, other women might want to read about it. As for those who'd feel insecure about their looks, I say, please consider the magazines as a whole. Sure we feature a lot of beautiful people, but people want to look at beautiful people. Why should we have to apologize for that?"

Lisa, who says she's managed to give away to more competent people the more unpleasant tasks that go with her job, admits that she has to deal with other challenges that come with publishing: "I've been sued by (actor) John Estrada, almost sued by (former congressman) Jules Ledesma and of course pilloried for Cosmopolitan and FHM. Even my poor mother has received hate mail because of Cosmopolitan when we first launched the title.

"But I will always believe in freedom of expression and this is because I respect the diversity of the human race. No one can dictate what another wants to consume. If the ultra-conservatives got their way, we'd all become that town in the movie Pleasantville. Everyone wholesome and toeing the party line. There should always be room in this world for pushing the envelope and being anti-establishment. Artists, fashion designers, journalists, filmmakers, authors push that line all the time and that is how the cultural life of a country progresses."

Nepotism

Being part of the family business has made the job easier somehow, admits Lisa. "You get to the top faster if you prove your mettle. Nepotism *talaga*. (It's nepotism through and through). The downside is, your brother is your boss and you have to call him Mr. Lance instead of *Kuya* during family gatherings. And you can't make fun of him either since he can give you a bad evaluation," she says with a laugh. Still, it helps that "Mr. Lance" likes the magazine business, she adds, "though he keeps telling people that it's so small it's not even one percent of the group. I think he does that so I don't ask for a raise. But as long as I give him his stash of Yes! Magazine and I don't lose money, he's happy."

As for her, what would make her really happy is to have a family of her own, she reveals. Lisa, 37, has been married for two years now to businessman Berck Cheng, whom she met while covering the Lifestyle beat for the Manila Times. Aside from having children, her fondest dream at the moment is "to continue to work with people who are extremely talented, committed and kind—like my staff."

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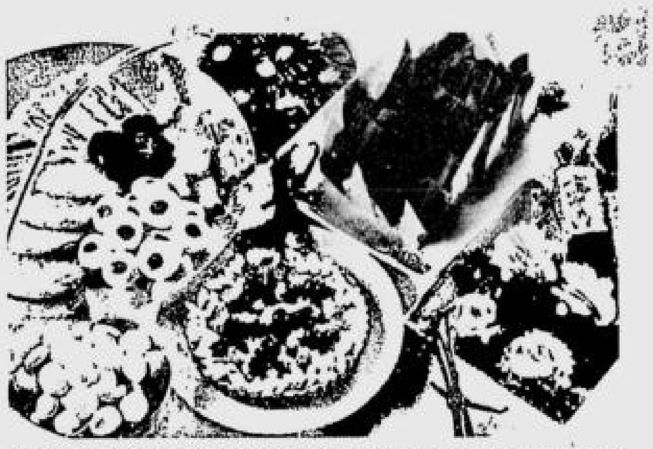

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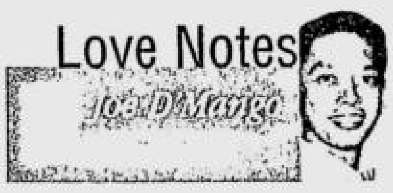
Love Notes



The Question of Belonging

Why did he come back after eight long years and make me fall in love again if we're not really meant for each other?

Dear Joe,

It's been 10 years now since I met the guy who turned my world upside down. I was 12 then, and very infatuated with this good-looking and intelligent guy. At that time, I didn't have any idea that he had the same feelings for me. But one day, something happened that made me mad enough to build a wall separating our worlds in two.

Eight years later, just when I thought I was doing well, fate turned on me again. My old crush and I bumped into each other and eventually became friends again. Time and experience have changed him a lot. It was amazing to see how the guy I used to love and the guy I eventually hated could turn out to be such a desirable young man. Upon seeing him again, I realized that I still care for him and was still in love with him. Hearing his name, seeing him smile and hearing his voice made me feel so kilig (excited) and filled up the emptiness in me.

But something prevents me from showing my true feelings for him, Joe. He's been going steady with his girlfriend for three years now. I knew that from the start, but I didn't seem to care. The times we spent together felt so good, so right. He made me feel so special and made me fall for him even more.

One day, he confessed his true feelings for me. I found out that he has loved me since we were just kids and that he loves me still. We tried to deny our emotions because we didn't want to betray his girlfriend but we couldn't fight the feeling. I told him that I would wait for him till he's free, but he didn't want me to do that. He wanted me to find the happiness that a committed person like him can't give. He wanted me to be happy even if it's not with him. This only made me admire and love him more. He's different from other guys but it hurts me, Joe, everytime he pushes me away.

We continued this special thing we have. We even had many "stolen moments" when we spent time together as lovers. Those were the happiest days of my life.

But one day, he surprised me with the news that he was getting married in two days. He got his girlfriend pregnant and she obliged him to marry her. It was very painful, Joe. I thought it was only a dream, but it was a nightmare. I was even half dead during their wedding.

Now I'm standing alone with a lost soul, an empty heart and a shattered life. I'm still trying to face a new life without him. I'm still in pain, Joe. I still cry everytime I remember him. Why did he come back after eight long years and make me fall in love again if we're not really meant for each other? Joe, this is a story without a happy ending. I'm still hung up on the thought that someday, if not here on earth, maybe in God's paradise, there will be a place for the two of us. Thank you for reading this, Joe. Writing it made me feel a lot better!

Missy

Dear Missy,

It's sad but true that love doesn't always have a happy ending. There are times when we ask ourselves why we have to find love only to lose it. Sometimes, God's reasons for taking someone away from us are difficult to understand, but we have to trust his wisdom in making things happen for a good reason.

Your friend tried to distance himself from you but you were probably just so much in love that you never really saw where you were headed all the while. You were sharing him with his legitimate girlfriend and you know that one day he would have to choose just one. He would have to break someone's heart, and he broke yours.

Shared moments with someone we love can truly be a wonderful experience, but sometimes it becomes not a question of belonging but a question of the right to belong. Even if it feels so right to be with him, he is still very much committed to his girlfriend and that doesn't put you anywhere nearer where you are now.

Missy, when we love a person, it brings out the best in us. When that person stops loving us and we still choose to continue to love that person, we become miserable because it is like running a race in the opposite direction. The more we love, the more we are drawn away from reality.

Missy, there is always a reason why people hurt us and make us cry. It is always part of a learning process that would make us better persons. Stop looking back for love that may make its way back. It wouldn't be coming from behind. It would always be there in front of you. If you miss it, then move ahead for even in love's greatest tragedies, there is always a promise of hope—that of finding love again and keeping it for eternity.

Love Notes is heard every Friday at 10:15 a.m. with replays at 7 p.m. on Wave 89.1 FM. Get your daily love advice from Joe D' Mango via SMS by texting "lovenotes" to 2968

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Part I: Bars & Restaurants

Welcome to the beginning of seamless indulgence. Just recently, SMART Infinity, the country's premium wireless postpaid service launched its very own privilege card. The SMART Infinity Privilege Card was unveiled during a lavish affair at the Manila Peninsula's Rigodon Ballroom attended by well-heeled SMART Infinity subscribers and prominent guests. The card, which will automatically be given to both existing and new SMART Infinity subscribers, boasts some of the most extraordinary privileges that no other privilege card can offer, giving them the red carpet treatment they deserve.

What other privilege card allows you to stay in **Baguio Country Club**, even if you're not a member, and with a 20% discount on the room, full use of its golf course and facilities? What other privilege card entitles you to exclusive year-round discounts at the **Rustan's** End-Of-Season sale two days before it even starts? And what other privilege card entitles you to free parking at **Shangri-La Plaza**, where you get to avail of out of this world privileges once inside?

To meet the high standards of its discerning subscribers, SMART Infinity has partnered with only the most prestigious establishments in Manila and other popular destinations nationwide. From exclusive country clubs to malls, bars and restaurants, shops to hotels, spas to family KTVs, you can expect unbelievable deals when armed with your SMART Infinity Privilege Card.

Continental Delights and More

Fine dining connoisseurs will learn that the SMART Infinity Privilege Card is loaded with incredible deals that will surely whet their appetite. For starters, indulge in a modern culinary experience at **Embassy**, courtesy of renowned chef Fernando Aracama. Here, cardholders can enjoy 20% off on lunch, free wine for dinner bills of at least P4,000 and free cava for dinner bills of at least P6,000. Discover the taste of Germany at Manila's only authentic German restaurant, **Schwarzwalder,** and get 15% off on food and beverage and a free cup of coffee or tea for a minimum bill of P1,000. Indulge in good Italian cuisine at **Bravo Ristorante Italiano**, which offers 15% off on food and drinks, a free dessert of your choice and a gift certificate for every P1,000 accumulated food and drink receipts. Trendy **Museum Café** is another swanky place to dine in and have a nightcap, while sister establishments **Chateau 1771** and **Portico 1771** have always proven reliable options for their warm ambiance. Old timer favorites **Italianni's** and **Outback** Restaurant still have their strong appeal for people of all ages, and now you can enjoy them even more with your SMART Infinity Privilege card. Ever popular wine and dine hangout **Nuvo** beckons with its perpetually buzzing outdoor area. **Grappa's Ristorante** is also a SMART Infinity Privilege Card merchant, so expand your Italian culinary horizons and try them out too. Swing by current European sensation chain **Segafredo** for an intimate meal and good coffee. At **Max Brenner**, you'll walk in craving for that cocoa high and walk out feeling royally satisfied.

Tastes of Asia

Filipino gourmands will surely appreciate the home-cooked style goodness offered at **Sentro 1771**. For the irresistible tang of Chinese cuisine, show your SMART Infinity Privilege Card at modern favorites **Big Buddha Restaurant** or **Zhongnanhai Chinese Bistro** and see what they have in store for you. Cozy hangout **Temple** also accepts your SMART Infinity Privilege Card, and if it's something with a little more zest you want, a taste of India awaits you at **Prince of Jaipur.**

Sugar Highs and Parties

For the sweet tooth, there's **Haagen-Dazs** which is widely considered to be the best ice cream brand in the world, and you've certainly earned the right to enjoy it with your privilege card. And if you experience a surge of calorific guilt, burn it all off by heading to a **BigFish** party where your card gains you and a companion free entry before midnight.

Other Destinations

Your SMART Infinity Privilege Card is not limited to the confines of Metro Manila. In Baguio, it is also recognized at **Forest House Bistro & Café, Otaka-Ya and The Republic Bar & Café**. In Pampanga, you can use it at **The Pampanga Grand House**, and in Tagaytay you're entitled to privileges at the **Viewsite Seafood Restaurant**. When you decide to hit the beach paradise that is Boracay, don't forget to take it with you for special privileges at **Sea Wind** and **Juice Bar**. In Cebu, it is recognized in **Vudu**, **Café Royale**, **Brown Cup** and **Formo Bar.** And way down south in Davao, your card is welcome at **Impit Purok, Yellow Fin** and **Iron Horse Buffet Resto.**

Enjoy Life's Best

The list doesn't end there. More privileges await you at various high-end shops, hotels, salons and recreational establishments across the nation. More than that, should you find yourself at a SMART Wireless Center your Privilege Card puts you on the fast track once you flash it to a member of staff and you will automatically receive priority service; the same kind of first-class service you have become accustomed to as a SMART Infinity subscriber. To learn more about the privileges that await you, you can download the "privilege menu" and check your privileges by texting PRIVILEGES and sending it to 211.

Needless to say, the SMART Infinity Privilege Card is truly one of the finest ways to enjoy life's best.

GUYITO Power

GUYITO, the official mascot of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, takes centerstage as the newspaper marks its 20th anniversary in December. Festivities will be highlighted by the unveiling of 20 Guyito carabao sculptures based on the character created by chief cartoonist Jess Abrera, and translated into the three-dimensional version by sculptor Juan Sajid Imao.

The Inquirer has invited 20 of the country's veteran and emerging artists to paint the fiberglass sculptures based on the anniversary theme, "The Power of Knowing." They are: Malang, Bencab, Kidlat Tahimik, Fernando Sena, Salvador Convocar, Soler, Steve Santos, Caña, Lydia Velasco, Ernesto Patricio, Bing Siochi, Roel Obemio, Tres Roman, Wilfredo Offemaria, Bin Samonte, Jef Samonte, Romeo Forbes, Rex Tatlonghari, Anton Balao and Jack Salud.

The grand unveiling of their works is scheduled on December 5, 6 to 8 p.m., at the Greenbelt Park, Makati City.

The carabao sculptures will be donated to 20 selected cities/municipalities nationwide, to be chosen based on their high schools' rankings in the Regional Finals of the Quiz Bee Competition. Miniature versions of the Guyito sculptures will be given to the top 20 companies that have supported the Inquirer in the past two decades.

From January to May 2006, Inquirer representatives will visit the 20 selected schools/cities to turn over the sculptures. In addition, an Inquirer Campus Journalism Workshop will be held in each school. The one-day lecture/workshop will feature Inquirer reporters, editors and columnists who will discuss specific journalism topics and share their expertise on effective writing, editing and layouting. The number of student participants will be determined by the school's available venue. Delegates will be given a handbook on journalism styles, methods, ethics and best practices.

Inquirer president Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez said the complement of anniversary activities underscores the need for knowledge. In marking its 20th year, Inquirer particularly hopes to motivate students to become achievers. "Through these projects, we hope to inspire the young to value reading and use it as a tool to attaining their dreams."

Sunday Inquirer Magazine profiles the artists who have made the Guyito undertaking possible. ***SADG***

Bencab

That Rural Flavor from a Weekend Farmer

Bencab endows Guyito with the artist's vision of a bucolic life

by Susan A. de Guzman

CARABAOS are a familiar sight to artist Bencab, as he sees them in their natural setting every time he travels from his place in Makati to his mountain retreat and work space in Baguio, and back. Passing through the fields of Central Luzon, he observes these work animals trudging through the mud as coaxed by plow-wielding farmers, tethered to a tree as they feed on grass, or plodding along with young boys on their backs.

It is this idyllic picture that Bencab seeks to capture in his version of the INQUIRER's 20th anniversary Guyito. "Images of kids riding on the carabao came to mind," says Bencab, who traverses the Manila-Baguio-Manila route on an almost weekly basis.

The result is a combination of rural flavor and childhood innocence, as Bencab chose to portray a farm boy peacefully dozing on the carabao's back. It is a picture of contentment, with the boy seemingly lost in his dreams as he takes a well-deserved respite after a day out in the fields.

A different look

Despite his many awards, the artist actually found Guyito a big challenge as he had never painted on a three-dimensional surface before. But it was a challenge that he embraced, as he found the project akin to the painted lions of Singapore that he had enjoyed seeing. "I liked how the artists there gave the lions a different look with their interpretations. That's also what we had to do, but this time, we had to work with the cartoon-image of a carabao," he says.

Bencab first applied a light yellow base on the figure before rendering the likeness of the sleeping boy. Afterwards, when he felt that the piece was still incomplete, he decided to enlist the assistance of fellow Baguio artist Rishab in adding other decorative elements to the piece. Rishab concentrated on Guyito's face, depicting his trademark butterfly in striking colors, like a mask for a costume ball. Could this be what the boy is dreaming about?

The artists worked simultaneously on the carabao for the better part of a day. The tall and lanky Bencab had no difficulty painting on Guyito's back, but he had to be careful to ensure that the image would connect perfectly on both sides in size and proportion. Crouching, bending and sitting to get to the hard-to-reach spots were the order of the day. The two artists then covered the resulting collaboration in varnish to protect what they had painted.

Bencab welcomed the Guyito project, yet another addition to his growing list of novel assignments. From May to June this year, he was a visiting artist at the Singapore Tyler Print Institute where he had the chance to collaborate with its international printmaking and papermaking team to develop paper-pulp paintings and mixed-media monoprints.

"The idea was to come out with on-the-edge prints. The Institute wants artists to experiment, to think out of the box," Bencab says of the four-week residency. The artist even suggested mixing in some abaca, sourced from the Philippines, for the paper he would be using during his stay. The resulting 34 works—which were sold out even before they were finished—will be exhibited in Singapore early next year.

Leisurely pursuits

When he goes up to Baguio, Bencab hies off to nearby Asin Road, Benguet where he tends his own modest farm, growing rice and raising ducks. Now that he has turned over the reins of the Tam-awan Village—an artist's enclave in Baguio dedicated to preserving the art and way of life of the mountain peoples of the northern Philippines—Bencab has found time for leisurely pursuits. But while he fancies himself a farmer, being an artist remains his foremost occupation.

Lately, he has been working on bisque plates on which he has depicted "Sabel," the image most associated with him. Originally based on a destitute woman, the latest incarnations of this Bencab figure are swathed in billowing clothes in bold colors that take on a beautiful sheen once the plates are fired.

Bencab has also begun doing metal sculptures and sees many possibilities in this medium. Sculptor is the latest tag to add to his already multi-faceted career as painter, printmaker and photographer.

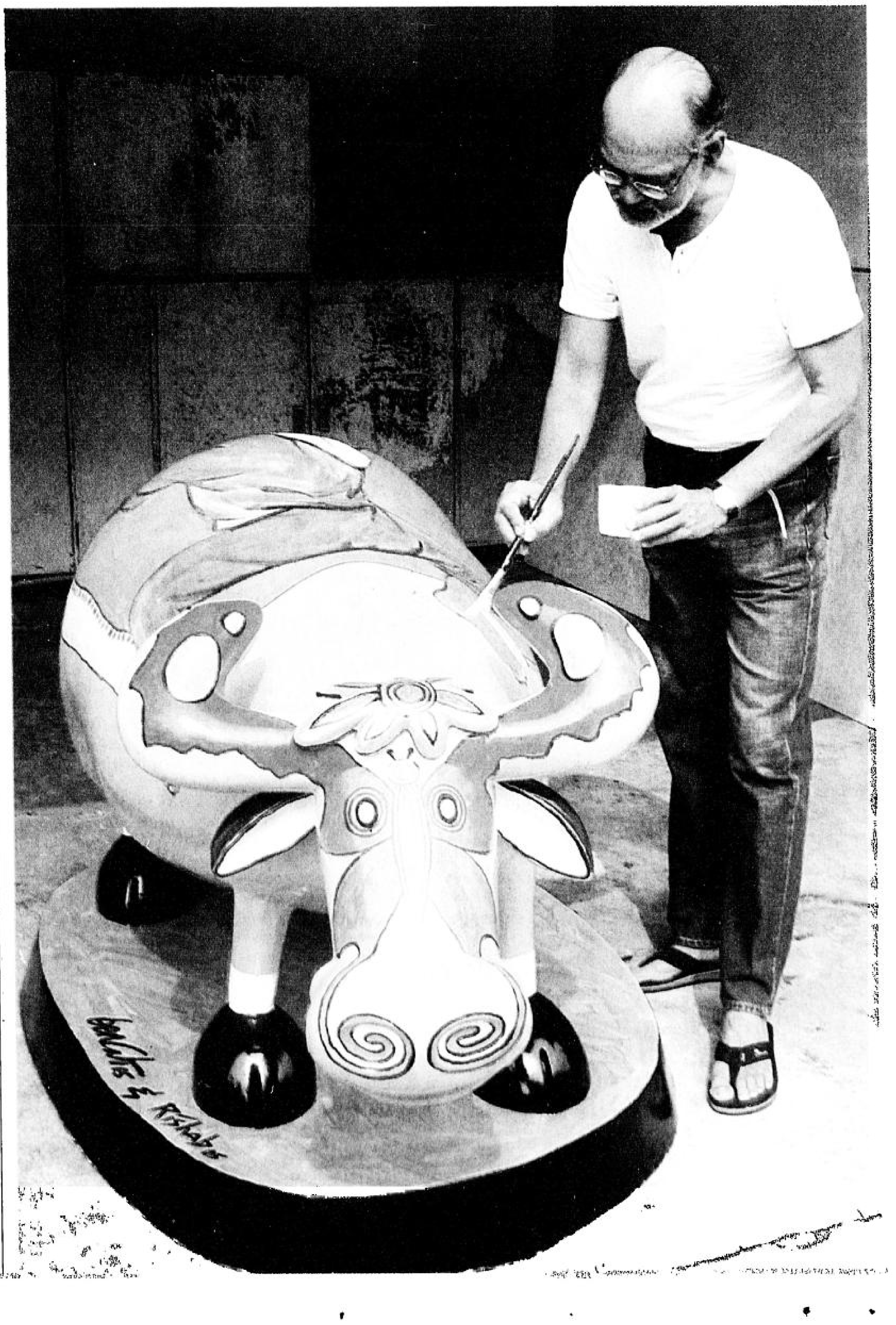
Currently, the artist is preparing for his participation in the Asian International Art Exhibition to be held in November and which is being hosted this year by the Philippines.

Ifugao lime containers

Although he takes an occasional vacation with wife Annie, Bencab doesn't really have the time to be idle as there are so many ideas percolating on his mind at any given moment. For instance, he wants to come out with a book about his collection of Ifugao lime containers. Bencab excitedly shows some of these containers, of which he now has over 200. Each one is meticulously crafted and has been made to look like a miniature basket, jar or animal figure.

Bencab's ultimate dream, however, is to build a Cordillera Museum on his property in Asin that will showcase his extensive collection of primitive and Cordillera art, along with his works and those of young artists. ◘

ROGER CARPIO



Malang

Showing His True Colors

by Susan A. de Guzman

ALANG's paintings are easily identifiable, not just because of his iconic women vendors but also because they are suffused with the brightest colors. Shades of orange, yellow, red, green and blue are abundantly utilized in different combinations, resulting in pictures that reflect cheer and optimism. No wonder Malang likes describing himself and his art as "angst-free."

For Guyito, the septuagenarian artist decided to give his usual riotous palette a rest. But the colors are no less recognizable because he has employed those found on the Philippine flag.

Half of the carabao has been painted blue from the body to the feet, while the other half is red. Guyito's face alternates as the triangular white portion in the flag. His clump of hair, colored yellow, substitutes for the sun. "*Sayang lang nga, kasi pito lang ang tusok ng buhok niya; yun kasing sa araw walo* (Too bad, Guyito's hair only has seven spikes, while the sun in our flag is supposed to have eight rays)," Malang points out.

It's not only the hair that he had to make do with. Look closer at Guyito's eyes and they've become surrogate stars—though understandably, there could only be two instead of the actual three. But even with such minor concessions, there's no mistaking what this carabao stands for. "*Ito ang Pinoy kalabaw* (This is the Filipino carabao). Nationalistic," smiles Malang, who recalls the carabao rides of his childhood during summer vacations spent in his mother's hometown in San Miguel, Bulacan.

To complete the Philippine theme, Malang has drawn one of his trademark figures on Guyito's back—a woman in native wear, reminiscent of the female vendors that populate his canvases. But this time, instead of the recurrent multi-colored *baro't saya*, Malang opted to leave the figure white, simply outlined in black. Here she appears in quiet repose, the ideal partner to "cartoon comrade" Guyito.

Malang, an avowed fan of Guyito's wisecracks and wry commentary on Philippine society, has a keen affection for comic strips. Like Jess Abrera, creator of the Inquirer mascot, Malang himself was a cartoonist before becoming a full-time artist. For nearly 20 years, starting in the late 1940s, he worked as layout artist, illustrator and designer for the Manila Chronicle newspaper and its supplement, This Week magazine. He later branched out into cartooning, creating signature characters for such widely followed strips as Kosme the Cop, Retired and Chain-Gang Charlie.

Having a daily comic strip was demanding, says Malang, as it requires both discipline and a wellspring of ideas. Thus, he learned to be observant, keeping his eyes open for real-life situations that he could adapt or poke fun at in his cartoons. He also became a voracious reader, eager to learn about artistic techniques so that he could refine his skills.

Malang's task as a cartoonist was made doubly challenging because he didn't use dialogue or word balloons. His strips consisted of visual puns or sight gags, using only occasional labels such as "*Noon*" and "*Ngayon*" (Then and Now) as cues. Malang's sense of humor was evident, with Kosme getting into all sorts of scrapes with his nagger of a wife and the convict Charlie finding a dozen and one uses for his ball and chain.

Encouraged by the late National Artist Hernando R. Ocampo, his mentor at This Week, Malang eventually made the transition to painting. But even as he flourished in this new career, he never really left his cartoonist past behind. While he has done nudes, abstractions and realistic figurative works, his heart remains in his cartoon-like renderings. Even his "*Barung-Barong*" series of old and his cityscapes hark back to his days as an illustrator.

Through the decades, Malang has demonstrated his ability to handle varied media, working with oil, gouache, charcoal, watercolor and

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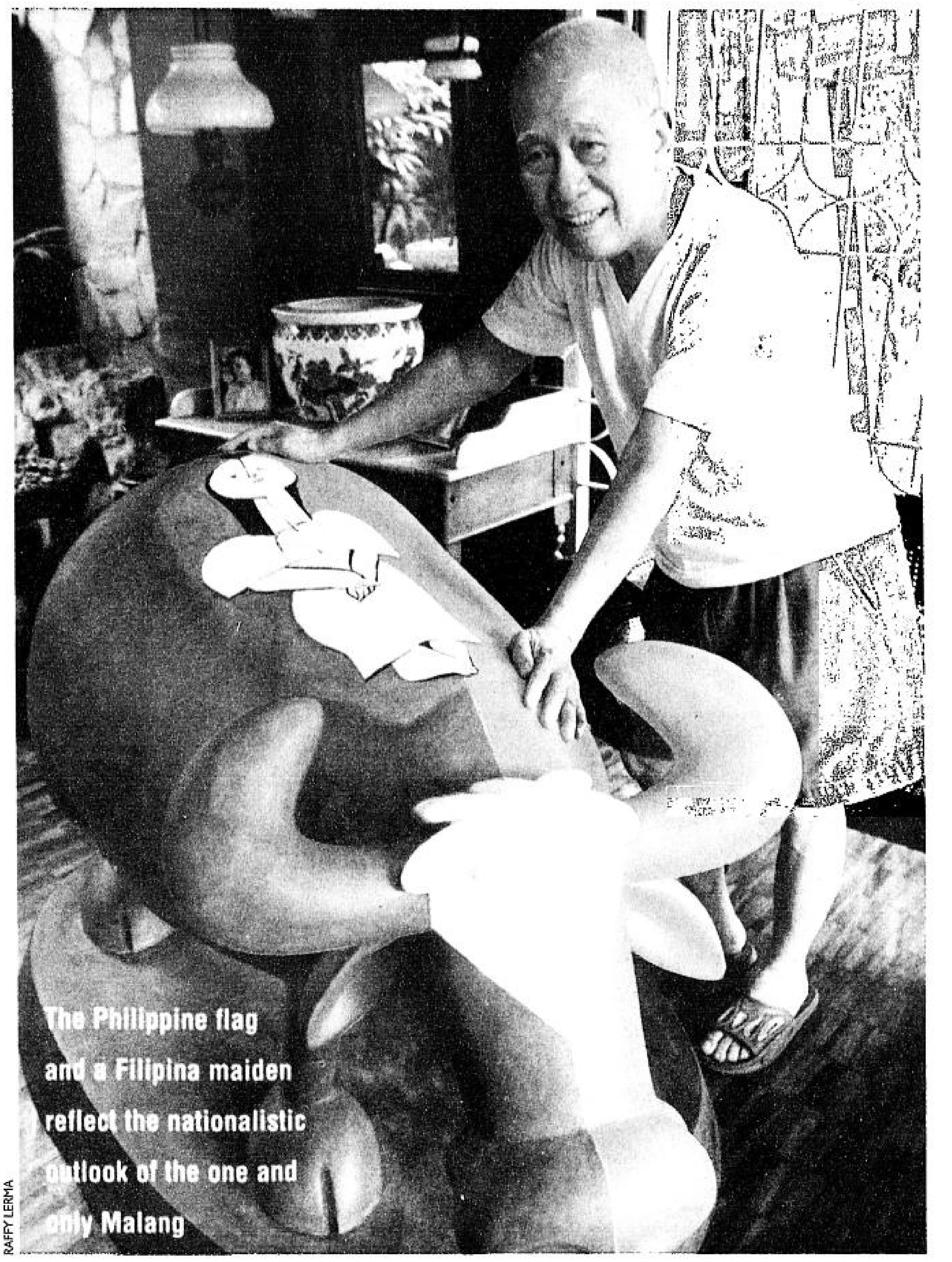

The Philippine flag and a Filipina maiden reflect the nationalistic outlook of the one and only Malang

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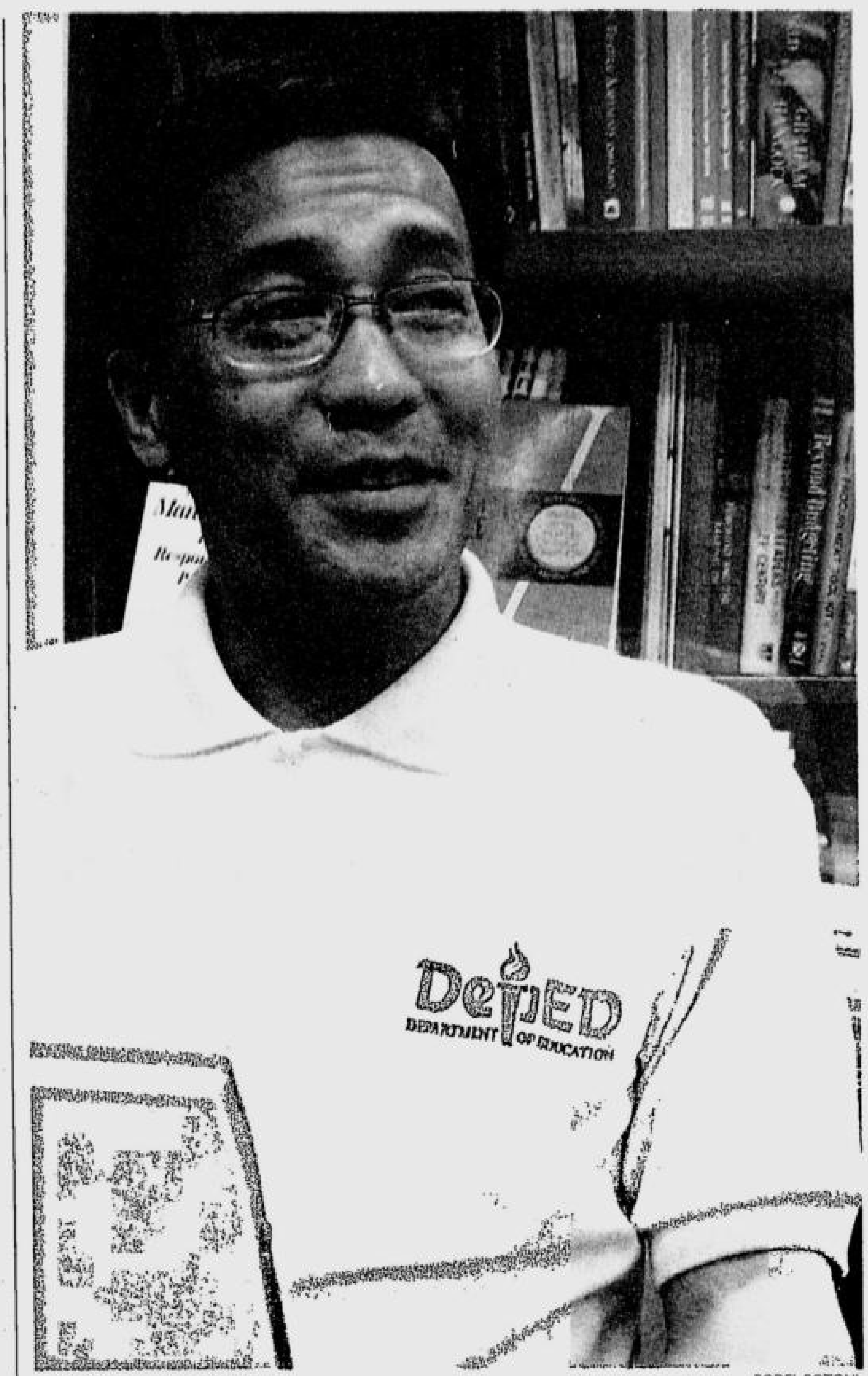
Controversies

by Alcuin Papa

His Family Genes Are Too Strong, Especially for Malacañang

What could have prompted low-key Education Undersec Mike Luz to take on his bosses at Malacañang and risk his job? Could his younger sibling, government critic Bill Luz of the Makati Business Club, have anything to do with the fighter's stance?


RODEL ROTONI

HIS brother has nothing to do with it, says Education Undersecretary Juan Miguel "Mike" Luz, on talks that younger sibling Makati Business Club spokesman and government critic Guillermo "Bill" Luz has egged him to take on Malacañang. Why, they hardly see each other, says the career service official. "I would be lucky if I saw Bill once a month. Besides, we were brought up as independent-minded individuals so people don't immediately see that he and I are brothers." Politics, he adds, never intrudes into any of their conversations nor does it figure in their relationship at all.

The older Luz had earned the ire of Palace officials when he returned three postdated checks worth P15 million from the President's Social Fund for Zambales Representative Antonio Diaz, an Arroyo supporter. The checks violated government accounting rules, the education official had reasoned out. "The government does not deal with postdated checks," he added. To which Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita had responded with a cryptic note, virtually dismissing Luz from his post: "We wish to thank you for your services as Undersecretary, Department of Education, effective immediately."

But Civil Service Commission chair Karina David disagrees, pointing out that being a career officer, Luz cannot be relieved without just cause and should continue to carry out the functions of his office.

Standing up to principle was something that most people associate with leaders of civil society, among them Bill Luz who was once a NAMFREL official. Because the older Luz was willing to risk his job to do what he believed was right, people realized how strong the family genes are. In truth, however, the brothers couldn't be more different.

More scholarly

The fourth of nine children of famed architect Alfredo Luz, 47-year old Mike Luz is lanky, clean-shaven and strikes a more scholarly stance compared to the bulkier and bearded Bill. Bill, born two years after, was always the more business-minded of the two. Mike's world revolved around teaching and the academe.

The older Luz brother was still in grade school when his family moved to Vancouver, Canada. But he is quick to quash rumors that he and Bill are Canadian citizens. "We were born Filipinos and remain so. We travel with Filipino passports."

Shared love

After grade school and high school in Canada, Luz moved to California for college at the St. Mary's College. He graduated in 1980 with a major in classical philosophy (minor in political science) and promptly came home. A year later, he was teaching for a La Sallian mission in Bacolod City when he met Elna Mediodia whom he later married. "We both have a shared love for imparting knowledge," says Elna. The couple has three children.

Luz was all set to go to Columbia for a master's degree in political science when former Senator Ninoy Aquino was assassinated in 1983. After Edsa 1 and during the Aquino administration, he became part of the Presidential Management Staff. "That's the best education in political science you can get," he recounts. At the end of the Aquino presidency, Luz went to Harvard University for his master's degree in public administration at the John F. Kennedy School of Government. After that, it was full time work with various NGOs, the academe, the government and the private sector including the Makati Business Club, the De La Salle University, the Philippine Business for Social Progress, the Department of Foreign Affairs, Far East Bank, the APEC Business Advisory Council, the Asian Institute of Management (AIM), the Washington SyCip Policy Center and several foundations.

Given a chance

While at the AIM, Luz wrote two evaluations of the DepEd, which oriented him on what the country's education system is all about. When he was tapped by former Education Secretary Edilberto De Jesus to come on board in 2002, he decided to jump in. "The AIM reports were recommendations. Now, I was given a chance to do something and see if we could get those recommendations working," he says. De Jesus, Luz and the rest of the new

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People of the Faith

by Floy Quintos

From Prayers for Good Crops, This Virgin Now Hears Appeals for Better Grades

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sons of La Salle: Joey Panlilio beside the fabled 'carroza'; inset, left to right: Bro. Andrew Gonzalez, Bro. Edmundo Fernandez, and Bro. Armin Luistro

Lahar spelled death for the La Naval procession in Bacolor, Pampanga. This month, four La Sallites are bringing the tradition to Dasmariñas, Cavite so that students can begin their own tradition of homage to the Virgin

THE bucolic grounds of the Museo de La Salle in the Cultural Heritage Complex of the De La Salle campus in Dasmariñas, Cavite, are abuzz with student volunteers and museum personnel busy at work. Their task is a daunting one, perhaps a bit anachronistic in a campus where most of the students major in computer studies and nursing. They are restoring and assembling the largest extant 19th century *"Carrozo Triunfal"* known, a massive yet graceful carroza of beaten silver.

For this October, the Nuestra Señora del Santissimo Rosario de La Naval of Bacolor, Pampanga comes home to the De La Salle campus in Dasmariñas. And here, every October from now on, she will ride forth again. One can almost hear Nick Joaquin rhapsodizing about his most beloved of Marian festivals.

And when she does, four sons of De La Salle will have fulfilled a vow to rekindle a devotion to the Naval. They are Bro. Andrew Gonzalez, FSC, two-time president of the De La Salle University System , who was just last week installed as the first president emeritus; Bro. Edmundo Fernandez, FSC, the youngest Brother Provincial of the De La Salle community in the country, and Bro. Armin Luistro, FSC, current president of the De La Salle University System and, quite recently, an active participant in national causes.

Providing a delightful counterpoint to this august company is Jose Ma. Ricardo Panlilio, or Joey, Executive Director of

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Malang

...from page 4

crayons with equal ease. He lives and breathes art, saying that, like a mistress, it can leave you if you just ignore it. Thus, everyday at the crack of dawn, after he has said his prayers and finished his Bible reading, he begins work at his home studio where as many as ten paintings are awaiting completion.

After breakfast, it is off to his other studio, located at the newly constructed Mary Santos Artcade in Quezon City, where he spends the better part of the day—painting still. Malang always brings a notebook with him so that when he has the time or when an idea strikes him, he can handily do some sketches on it.

The "artcade"—dedicated to his late wife Mary—is one of Malang's proudest accomplishments. Marshalling his resources and relying on the combined energies of his children Sarah, Steve, Simon and Soler, he put together this comprehensive art center that houses a bigger West Gallery and shops for framing, prints (offering works by Manansala, Luz and other masters) and video rental.

Along with his prolific output—from yesterday's cartoons to today's women vendors—this art space is indeed another testament to Malang's bountiful legacy. Q

From

...from page 6

the Museo de La Salle and connossieur of all things pertaining to 19th century Philippine Illustrado style. All four come from diverse backgrounds, but share a quiet devotion to the Virgin and the desire to see her devotion spread among the De La Salle students.

For Joey, 41, the image of the Virgin and the attendant St. Joseph, the massive and priceless *carro* and the very tradition of honoring the La Naval are, at once, a remnant of childhood and a symbol of a painful rite of passage into the real world. The image's last custodian was his paternal grandmother, the late Luz Sarmiento Panlilio, a grand dame of Bacolor, Pampanga, and elder sister to the fabulous jeweler Fe.

"My childhood was greatly influenced by Inang Lucing," says Joey. "I remember how the *carro* and the image of the *virgen* was the most important thing in her life. And how the entire year centered on the preparation for the November festival, which is when the La Naval was celebrated in Bacolor. My brothers and I were studying in La Salle and our immediate family was based in Manila. But every November just as the novena began, we had to come home. Inang Lucing would ask our parents to issue excuse letters. It was that important to our family."

Fun side

Joey, from a very young age, took a great interest in the preparation of the *carro*. Weeks before, the pieces were taken out from the camarin or warehouse for polishing, reconstructing, repairing. *Inang* would show me the lace and tissue that she had bought from her trips to Spain and involve me in the work. She would teach me the way the *virgen* must be dressed, the appropriate flowers, the appropriate music that the marching band would play. I just took to it naturally, it was all a part of my education in the traditions of the 19th century."

But such archaic minutae also had a fun side. "*Kapampangans* are great eaters, and the day of the fiesta was one big celebration of Bacolor cuisine. We would wake at dawn to see the formal living room of the old house strewn with barongs. We would get into them and go to the high Mass. Then, we would come home to breakfast, a meal to which everyone in town was invited. At midmorning, *segundo almuerzo*, a heavy merienda was offered to all who had worked on the *carro*. Lunch was hectic because all the visitors from Manila would arrive, and it was a matter of *kapampangan* pride that Inang offer them a table of the very best specialties. Then, at 3 p.m., another merienda for the latecomers from Manila. The parade would take place at around seven in the evening. And when we came home, there was a formal dinner in the main house, and food for everyone in the grounds below. It was exhausting, and even more so because at the crack of dawn the next day, my brothers would be herded into the car for the long drive back to school. I would stay an extra week to clean up and put everything back into place. My parents were not amused, especially my father. Looking back, I was really torn between two generations: *Inang*'s which believed in tradition, and my own family's pragmatism and modernity!" His mother, the writer Lourdes Abad-Panlilio, once whispered to Joey, just as the *carroza* was sweeping past in all its dazzling grandeur, "You must always remember, *hijo*, the *virgen* was a simple woman."

Joey looks back with little nostalgia and lots of pragmatism. "It was a feudal lifestyle, yes. But the one thing I most treasure about it is that it taught us to deal with everyone from all classes of life. It wasn't this stereotyped ideal of having *caciques* and tenants at your beck and call. Everything was community-based. We worked alongside the people who worked for us. We decorated the *carro* together, we ate together, we marched in the procession together. It was for the Virgin, that was the way we thought about it. It was a dying tradition even then. But in Bacolor, the procession was a source of community pride."

Benighted tradition

Sadly as Joey grew into adulthood, he saw the gradual loss of interest in the benighted tradition. "It needed only the lahar to put an end to the procession, to that entire way of life."

Joey and his siblings must have been ready to say goodbye to it in 1990, when the Pinatubo eruption covered most of Bacolor in lahar. But *Inang* Lucing, well into her eighties, had other plans. "I remember I told her that it would be difficult to organize an evacuation for the furniture and for the household effects. She told me, 'What furniture? All we really need is the *carro*.' It dawned on me that this feisty old woman had lived her entire life for only two things, her family and the *virgen*. We had to do it."

Inang, Joey and his brothers and a few friends from Manila went back in a 10-wheeler truck. "She rode right up front next to the driver. We went back and tried to save as much as we could. Everyday, the lahar would rise a little higher, but we finally managed. On the long ride back, I started to complain. *Inang* was praying her rosary, but she stopped to say, 'At least, we have somewhere to go. During the war, when I evacuated the *carro*, there was nowhere to go.' That certainly said a lot about *Inang* and her character. We brought everything back and put it into storage. However, there was no more community, no more old friends and neighbors. The entire structure that had made the procession come alive was gone. I think my grandmother realized that she had saved the *carro*, but that the entire lifestyle was gone. And there was nothing she could do about that." *Inang* Lucing died in 1998, a shadow of her former self, but still an ardent devotee to the Naval.

Bro. Andrew, himself a descendant of the prosperous Arnedo-Gonzalez clan of Sulipan, Apalit, Pampanga, was no stranger to *kapampangan* tradition. "But Brother is one of the most forward-looking men I've ever met. He admires the past, but he does not live in it. He knew we had saved all this stuff, he knew that it was in storage. He called me one day and said, "Put all your memories of childhood into a place where students can learn about them. You have a responsibility to the future generation.' The Museo De La Salle was born." As envisioned by Brother, it would be part of a cultural complex in the Dasmariñas campus, with the Aklatang Emilio Aguinaldo, the Campus Ministry Office and the Cavite Studies Center. All of a sudden, Joey who had been a practicing interior designer, had a new purpose in life. "It was no problem to get the family to donate everything to the new museum. It was the least painful way to say goodbye to memories."

Wonderful coups

Five years into operation, and the Museo De La Salle is not only one of the best-endowed museums in the country, it is also one of the most talked about. As executive director, Joey has managed some wonderful coups, such as important private donations, most notably the Guevarra collection. His old-world tact and diplomacy, coupled with a wicked charm and serendipity, has gotten the museum many important bequests from the creme collectors. But it is his florid style of display, so true to the hyper-refined sensibility of the late 19th century, that makes the museum truly unique.

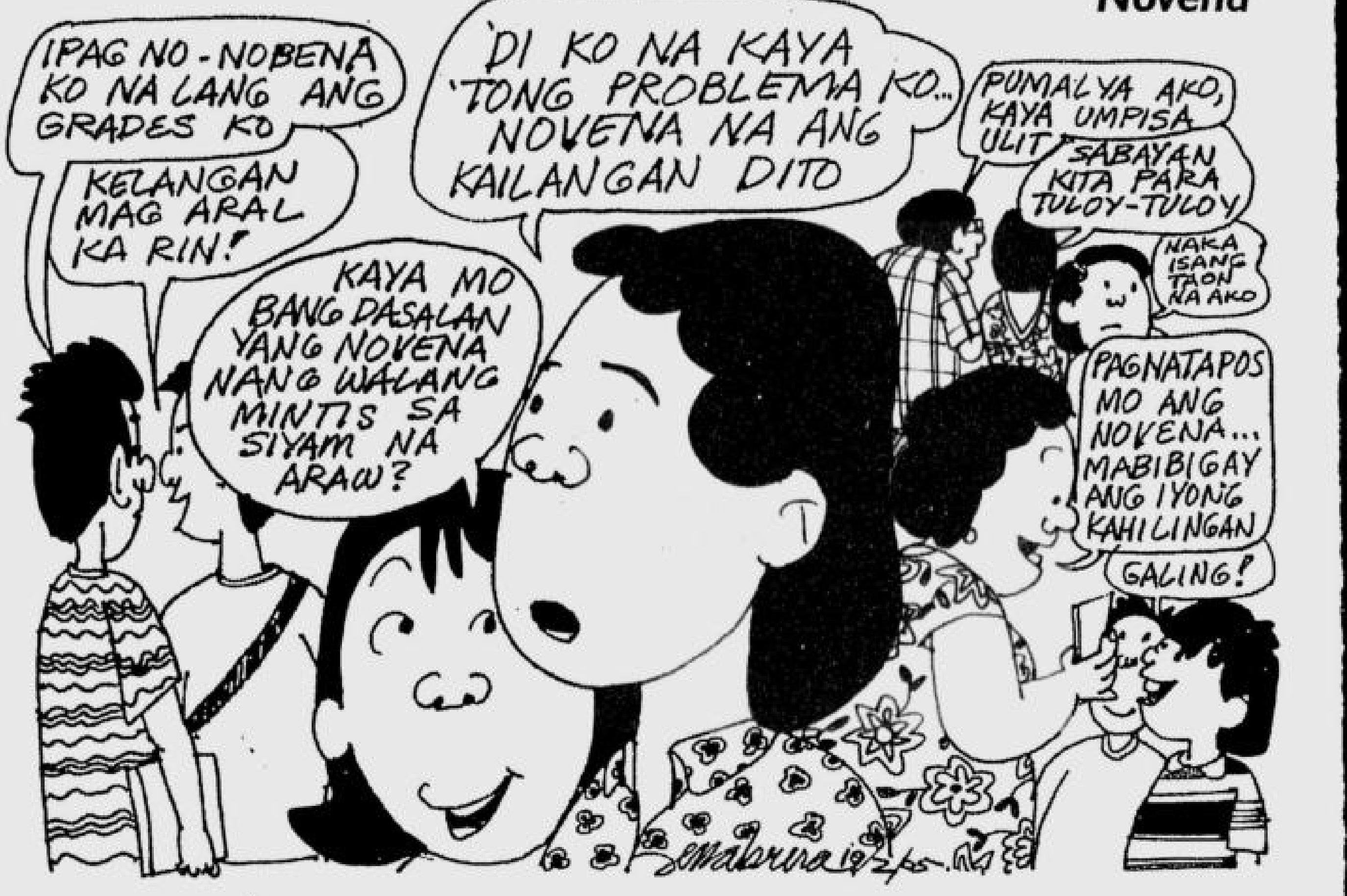
"Still," Joey says, "It lacked, in Brother Andrew's words, a spiritual center. Now that the museum is up and running, it seems the best time to bring out the *Virgen* again. It has been 14 years since she was last seen. But this time, it will be in a setting and at a time where she will give a different meaning to the festivities. And among young people who know nothing of Bacolor and the past, but who are ready to create their own traditions."

When the Virgen de la Naval rides forth again on this month sacred to her and her devotees, there will be no more *caciques* and tenants, no proud matrons of feudal society, no children forced home from school to attend to her. Instead she will be pulled along by students who have volunteered for the honor of being her escorts. Perhaps, in Bacolor, she heard very different prayers—for better crops or kinder masters and cancelled debts. This time, the prayers will be for exams, for careers, for much-needed jobs. No grand fetes, no groaning tables will mark her fiesta. Only the quiet admiration of a new community that is beginning something they can call their own. No need now for new jewels and crowns for this La Naval. Q

Pinoy Nga!

Jess Abrera

Novena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KELANGAN MAG ARAL KA RIN!
KAYA MO BANG DASALAN YANG NOVENA NANG WALANG MINTIS SA SIYAM NA ARAW?
'DI KO NA KAYA 'TONG PROBLEMA KO... NOVENA NA ANG KAILANGAN DITO
PUMALYA AKO, KAYA UMPISA ULIT
SABAYAN KITA PARA TULOY-TULOY
NAKA ISANG TAON NA AKO
PAGNATAPOS MO ANG NOVENA... MABIBIGAY ANG IYONG KAHILINGAN
GALING!
Jemalerina 10/2/05

His

...from page 6

team, which included another young idealist named Chito Gascon, decided to "go slowly and lay a solid platform for long term programs." Their flagship project is the "Schools First" Program where other sectors and members of the community are encouraged to participate in developing and maintaining their local public schools.

Not enough

Says Luz: "Here in the Philippines, that's the nature of the bureaucracy. *Hindi pwedeng biglaan* (You can't do it overnight). And the problem with the DepEd is that you don't see results in a year. It's not enough."

As undersecretary for finance and administration, Luz's responsibilities entail overseeing some 450,000 public school teachers in 40,000 public schools around the country. This leaves him very little time to pursue his love for reading, though he admits to enjoying the occasional movie with the family, most of them historical and mythological movies like "Gladiator," "Troy" and "Kingdom of Heaven. "A probable throw back to my college education in the classics," he says. His even tan Luz attributes to golf, which he last played in March, "the first and only time I got to play since I entered the DepEd. Since then, I have not had any spare time for anything else."

The Undersecretary talks with an easy drawl that barely rises a notch even when he is agitated. But he can be very tart, as when he berated a subordinate over the phone over some bureaucratic matters: "That better not be some Mickey Mouse seminar because the department is paying good money for that," he admonished the subordinate.

Last month, textbook publishers got a mouthful from Luz after all the books they had submitted for evaluation failed the DepEd's standards. The textbooks were "junk," he said, something that the DepEd would never buy. During a DepEd management committee meeting last week, Luz was flabbergasted by the lack of initiative among some regional directors to raise the standards of teaching core subjects in their area, and ended up giving them a piece of his mind.

Coca-Cola trucks

Earlier, Luz had already addressed the textbook problem and the corruption that accompanied their distribution with his National Textbook Delivery Program. Dubbed as "Textbook Count 3," the project, which began last August, had the DepEd teaming up with 34 civil society groups and non-government organizations to help deliver 1.3 million textbooks to over 12,000 public schools nationwide. The consortium would monitor the delivery to ensure transparency in the system, tapping such unorthodox but wide-reaching means as Coca-Cola delivery trucks to get the books to the kids.

Though Malacañang has all but dismissed him for doing his job right, Luz is steadfast in remaining a professional all throughout. "If you criticize government, leave it first. It isn't proper. You are part of the system and it's bad when you have bad things to say and you are not looking for solutions."

Indeed, Mike Luz is deathly serious about his work at DepEd. "If you can get into the bureaucracy, get in at a position where you can make a difference because you can take that for life." With his present run-in with Malacañang threatening to cut short his work, Luz remains forthright and at the same time surprisingly prudent. "This is not about the President being wrong and us disobeying the President. This is not about fighting. This is about standards of governance. If that means I'll get kicked out of government then so be it." Q

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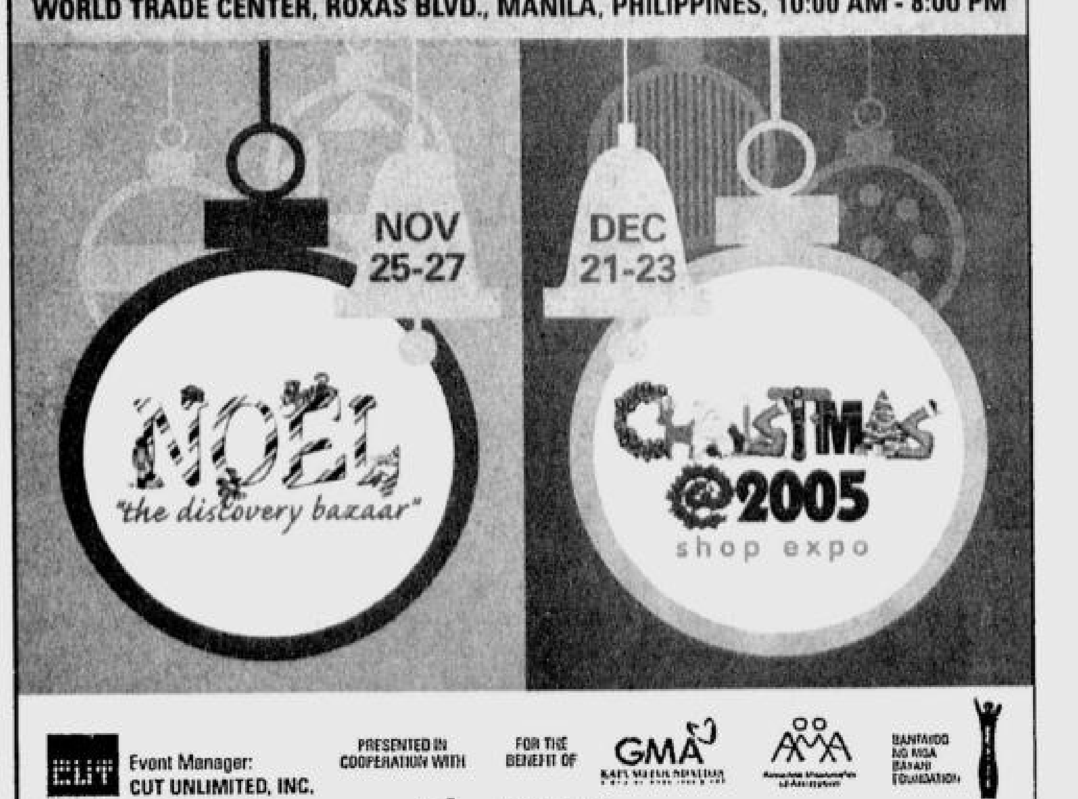

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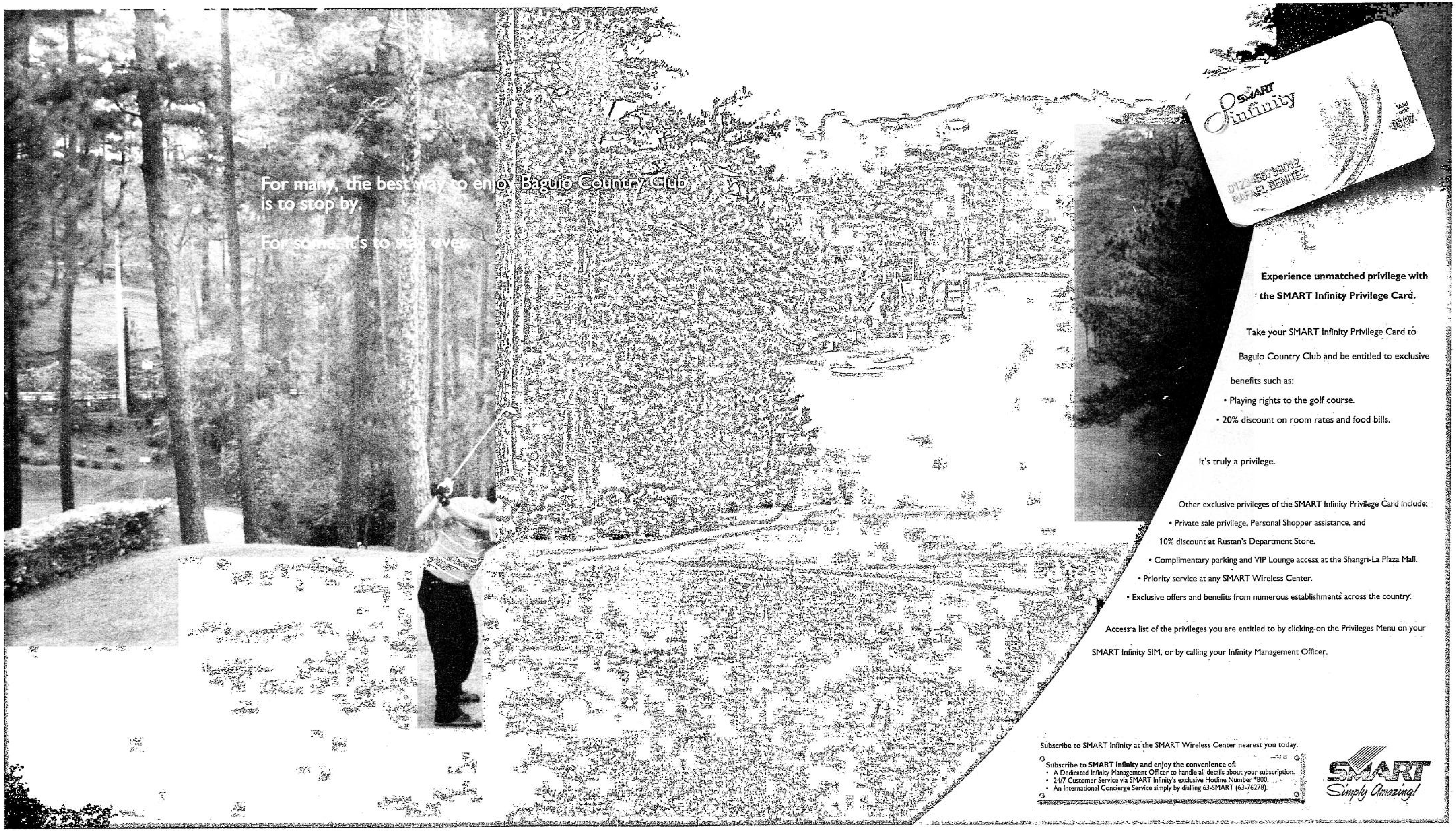
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